

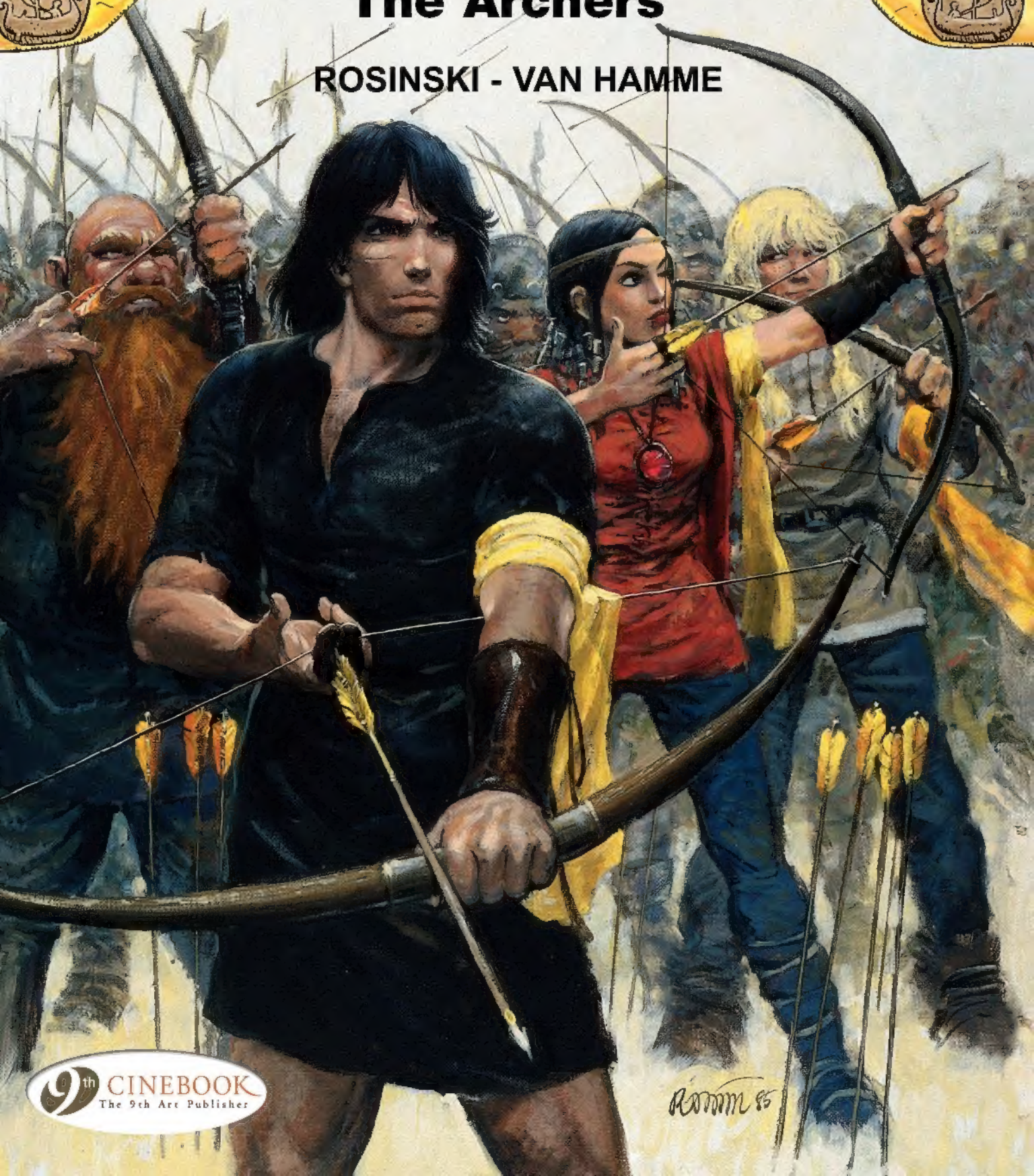


THORNGAL



The Archers

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME



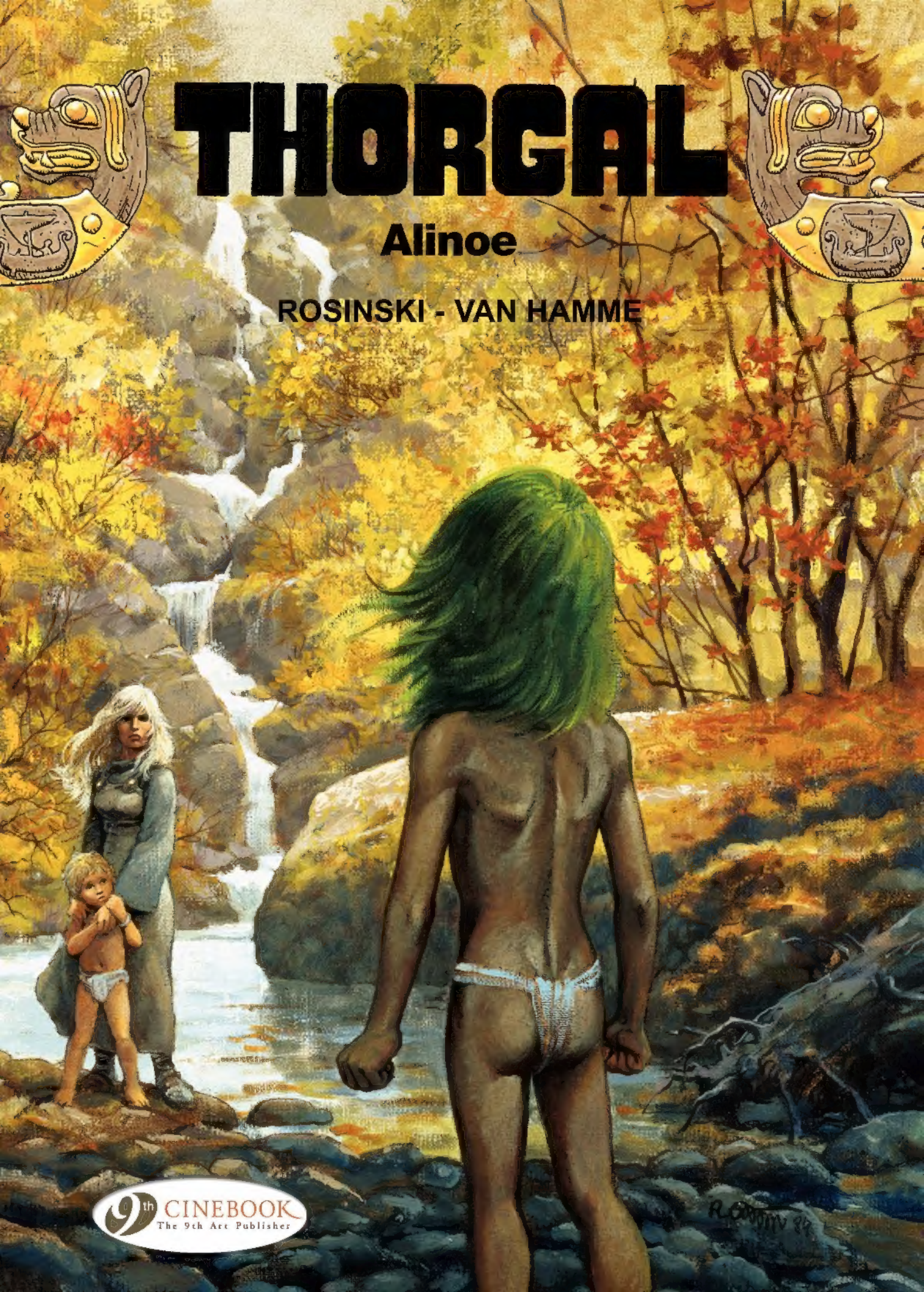


THORGAL



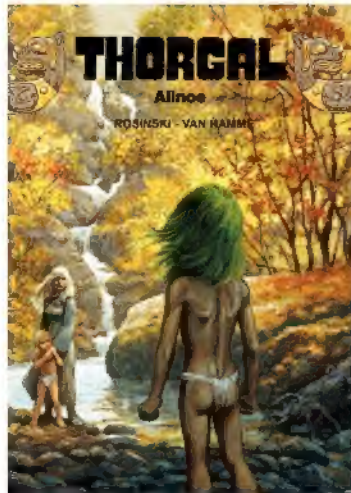
Alinoe

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME



R. G. 89

This two-volume book includes:



Original titles: Thorgal 8/Alinoë - 9/Les Archers

Original edition: © Rosinski & Van Hamme, 1985, LES EDITIONS DU LOMBARD
(DARGAUD-LOMBARD),
www.lelombard.com

English translation: © 2008 Cinebook Ltd

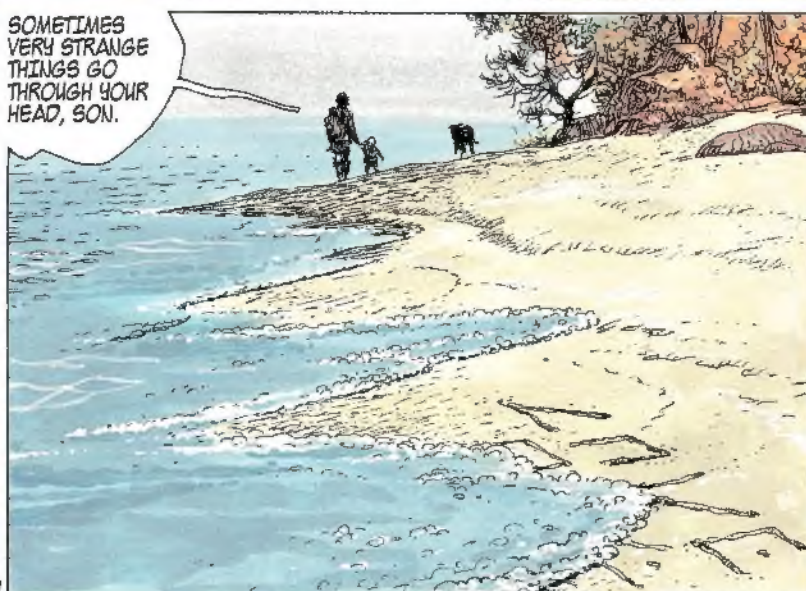
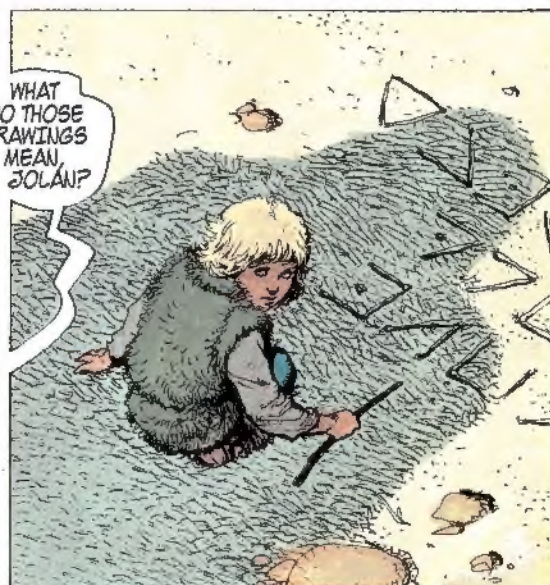
Translator: Luke Spear
Lettering and text layout: Imadjinn sarl
Printed in Spain by Just Colour Graphic

This edition first published in Great Britain in 2008 by
CINEBOOK Ltd
56 Beech Avenue
Canterbury, Kent
CT4 7TA
www.cinebook.com

A CIP catalogue record for this book
is available from the British Library

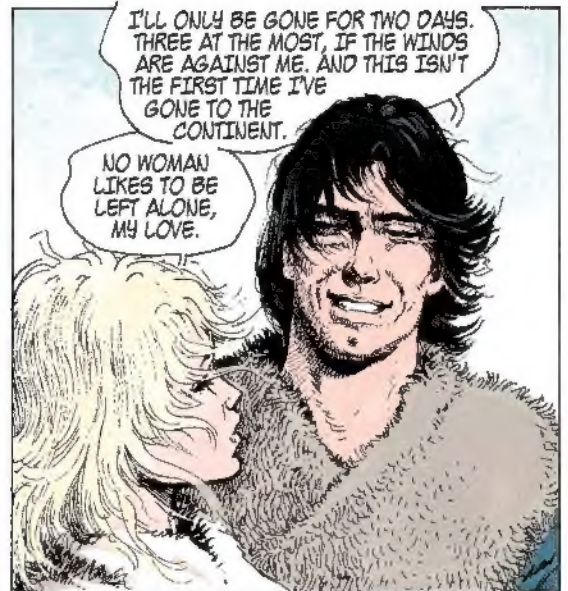
ISBN 978-1-905460-67-0

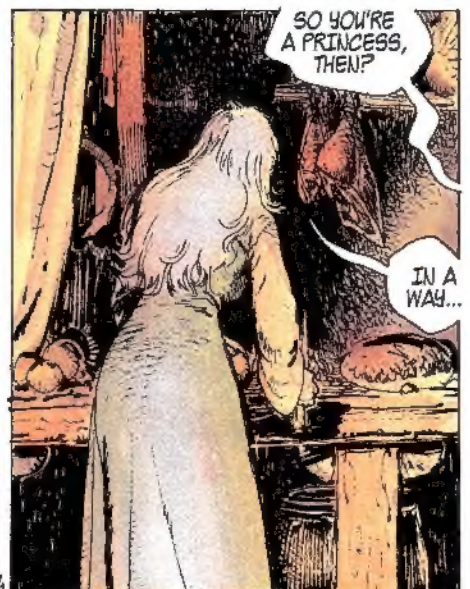
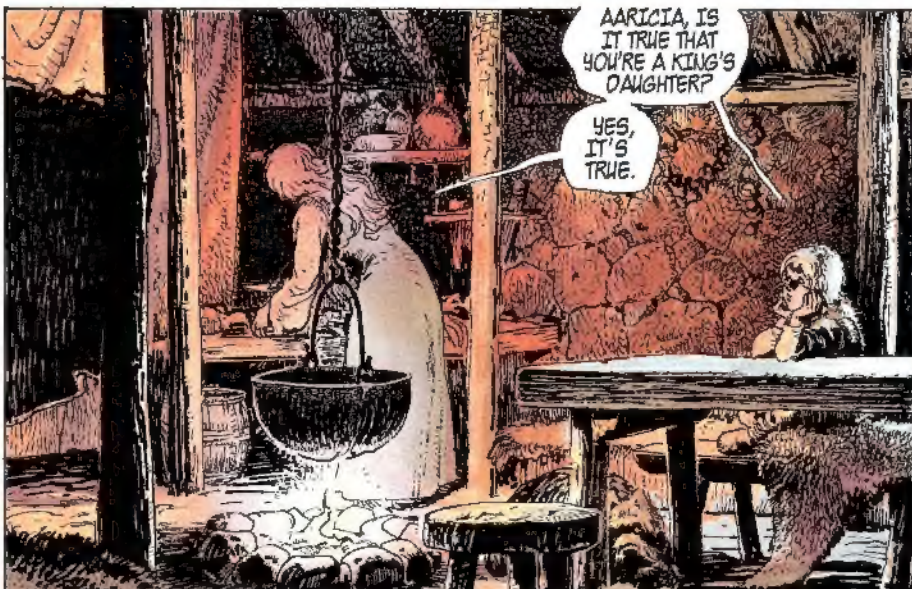
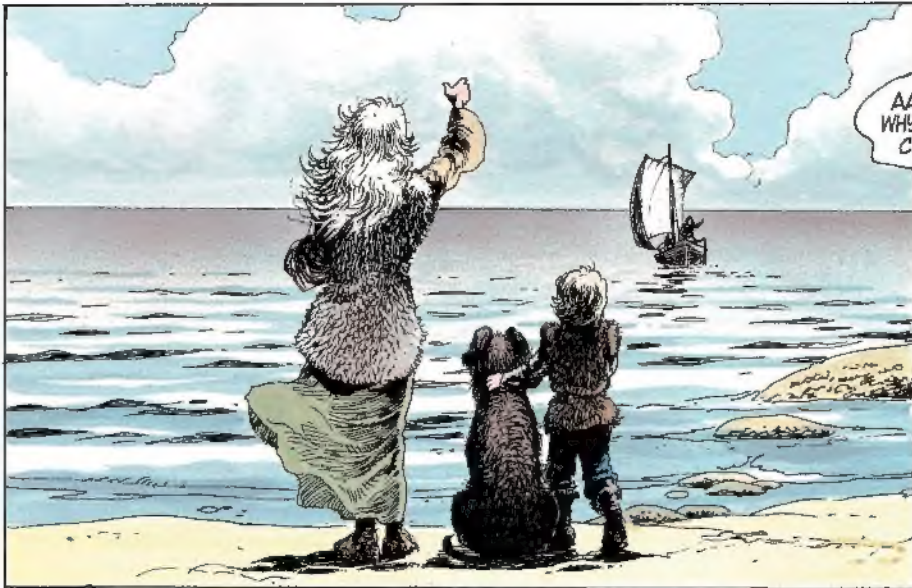
 **CINEBOOK**
The 9th Art Publisher

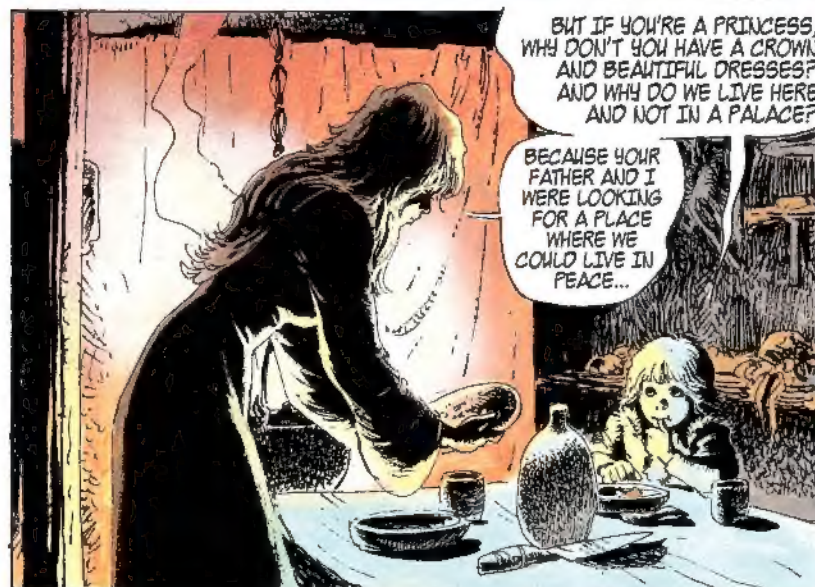




* CHARACTERS OF THE ANCIENT SCANDINAVIAN ALPHABET.









IN A FEW YEARS, WHEN YOU'RE OLDER, YOU'LL SEE OTHER PEOPLE, HONEY. MAYBE MORE THAN YOU WOULD LIKE TO. NOW GO AND HAVE A WASH BEFORE BED.



AARICIA...

WHAT NOW?



I'D LIKE TO HAVE A FRIEND TO PLAY WITH.

h



BUT YOU HAVE MUFF... ISN'T MUFF YOUR FRIEND?

YEAH, OF COURSE, BUT IT'S NOT THE SAME...



I'D LIKE TO HAVE A REAL FRIEND TOO.

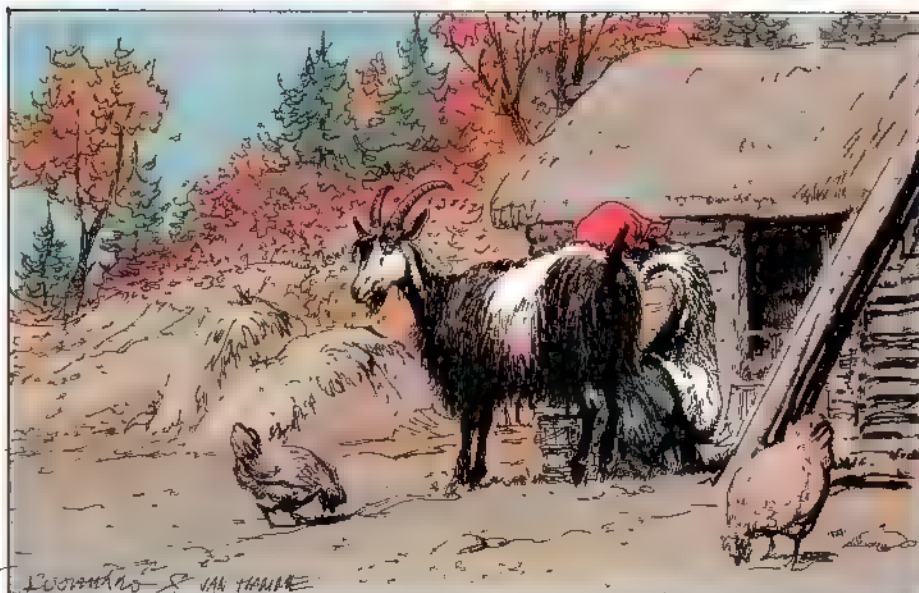


OR A LITTLE BROTHER OR SISTER.



OTHER PEOPLE'S CHILDREN HAVE THEM, BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

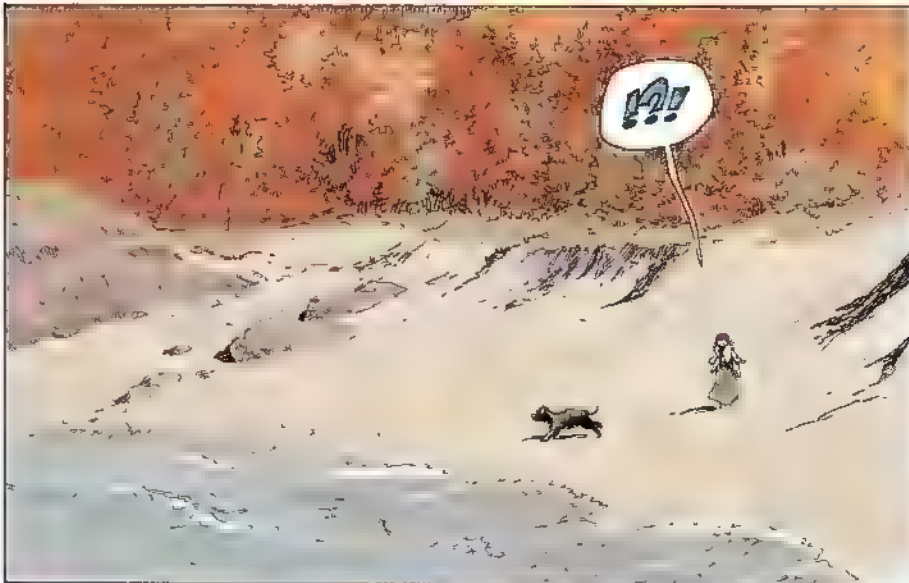
MOST OF THEM DO, THAT'S TRUE...



MUFF... YOU'RE ALL
ALONE? WHERE'S
JOLAN? BY FRIGG,
WHAT IF...



JOLAN!
JOLAN!

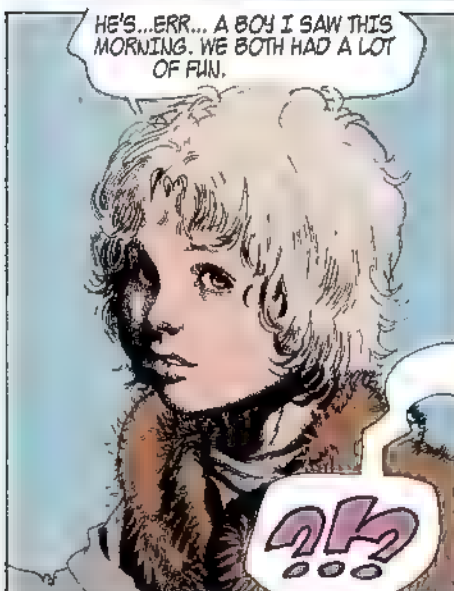


WHERE'S JOLAN,
MUFF? WHERE DID
HE GO TO FISH?



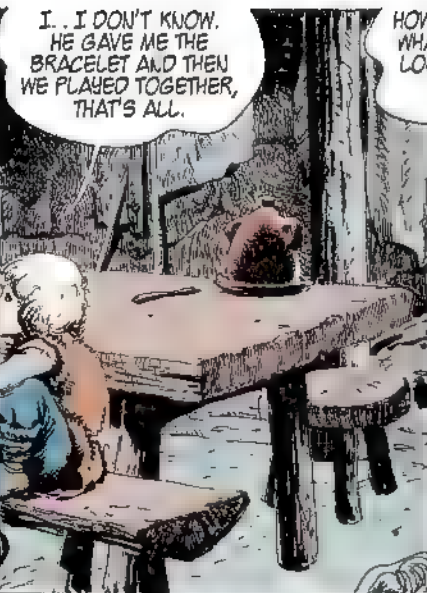
FIND
JOLAN,
MUFF! FIND
HIM!







WHO WAS THAT BOY, JOLAN? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?



I... I DON'T KNOW. HE GAVE ME THE BRACELET AND THEN WE PLAYED TOGETHER, THAT'S ALL.



HOW WAS HE? WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE?

WELL... HE WAS OLDER THAN ME... WITH VERY WHITE SKIN, DARK BLACK EYES AND GREEN HAIR...

GREEN?!



THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS GREEN HAIR!

WELL... HIS HAIR WAS GREEN, THAT'S HOW IT IS.



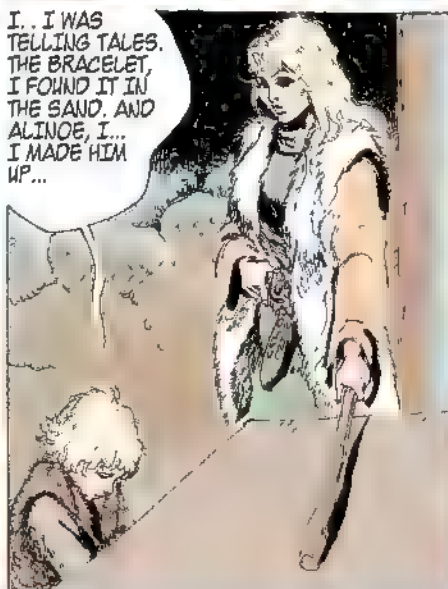
GREEN HAIR OR NOT, THIS BOY COULDN'T HAVE COME TO THIS ISLAND ALONE. YOU STAY HERE WITH MUFF AND WAIT FOR ME TO COME BACK. DON'T GO ANYWHERE.

OH...



ERR... AARICIA...

YES?

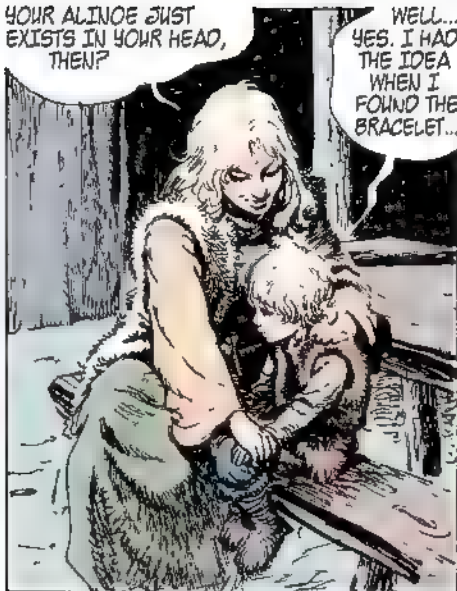


I... I WAS TELLING TALES. THE BRACELET, I FOUND IT IN THE SAND. AND ALINOE, I... I MADE HIM UP...



HA
HA
HA

YOUR ALINOE JUST EXISTS IN YOUR HEAD, THEN?

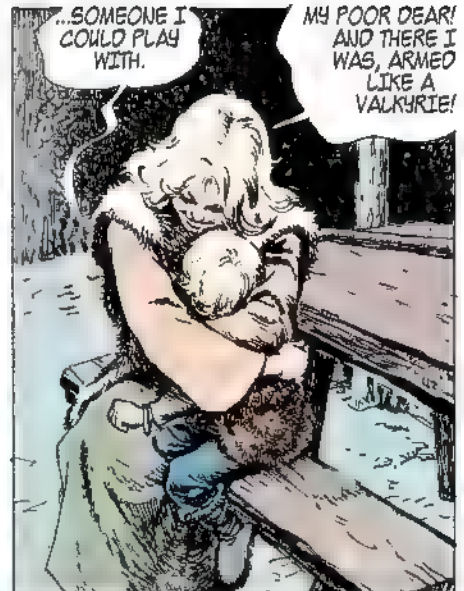


WELL... YES. I HAD THE IDEA WHEN I FOUND THE BRACELET...

I WOULD HAVE LIKED FOR A REAL FRIEND TO GIVE IT TO ME. A REAL FRIEND WHO WOULD BE OLDER THAN ME AND WHO WOULD HAVE GREEN HAIR...



...SOMEONE I COULD PLAY WITH.



MY POOR DEAR! AND THERE I WAS, ARMED LIKE A VALKYRIE!

I'LL TALK TO THORGAL. MAYBE WE CAN FIND A FAMILY WITH CHILDREN WHO'D LIKE TO COME AND LIVE ON THE ISLAND WITH US. BUT PROMISE ME YOU WON'T MAKE UP ANY TALES LIKE THAT AGAIN, ALL RIGHT?



I PROMISE YOU, AARICIA.

THE FISH WAS DELICIOUS, JOLAN.

CAN I GO AND SWIM BY THE WATERFALL?

OF COURSE.

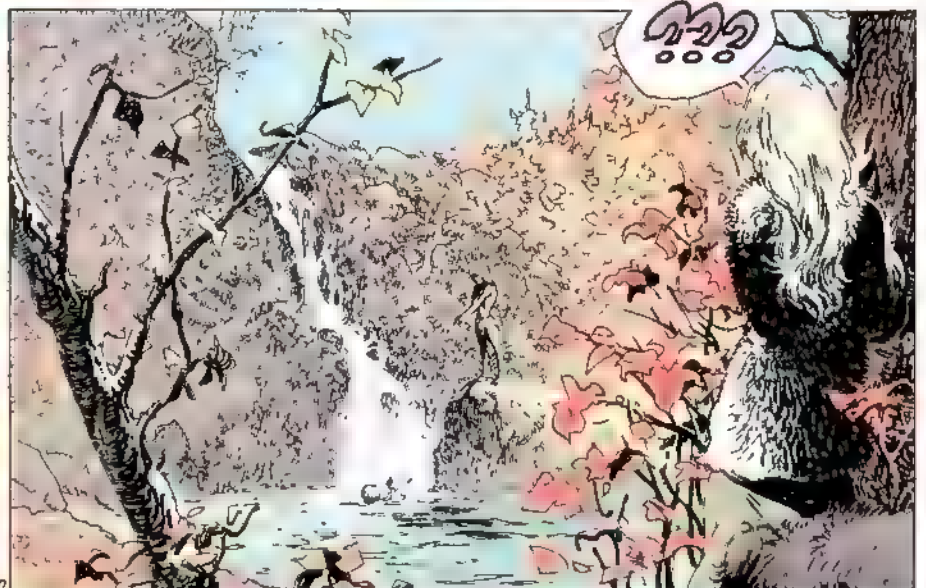
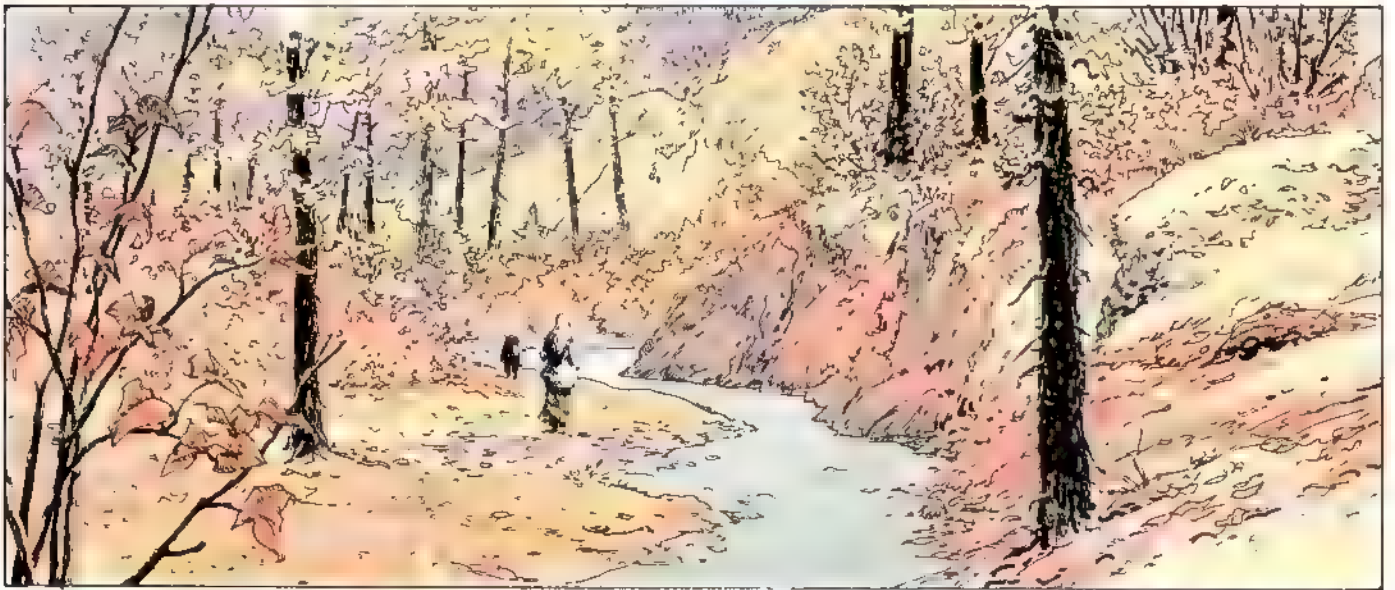


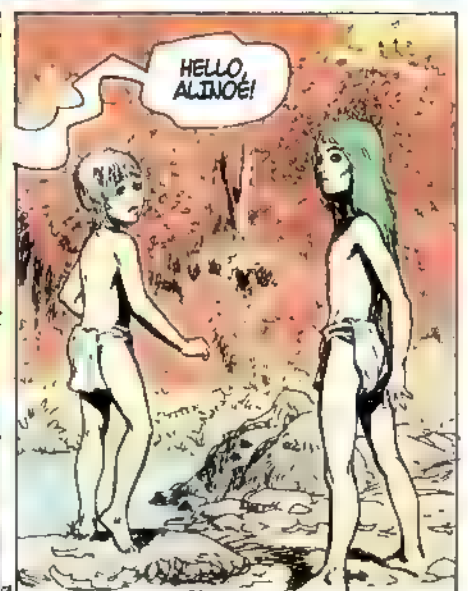
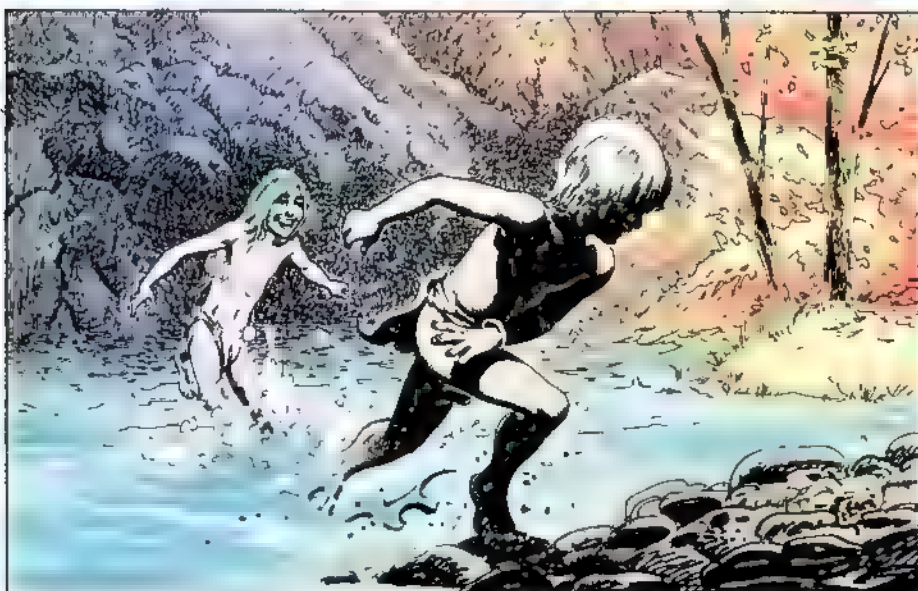
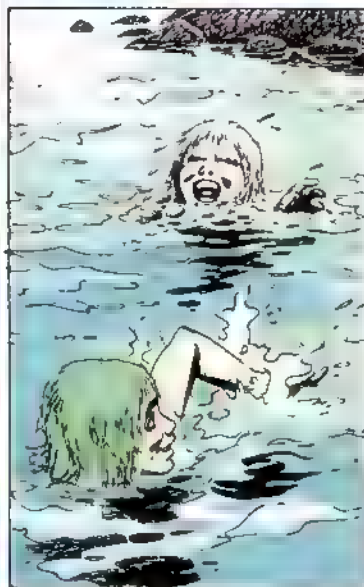
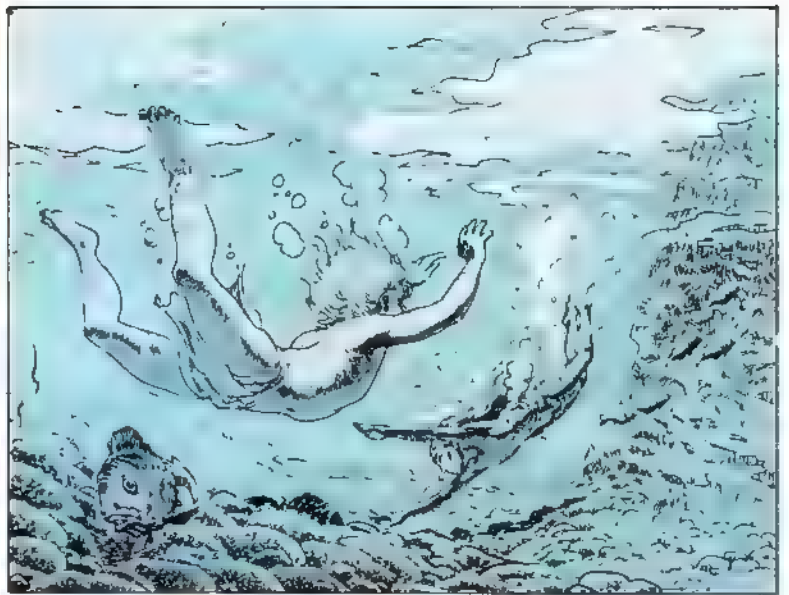
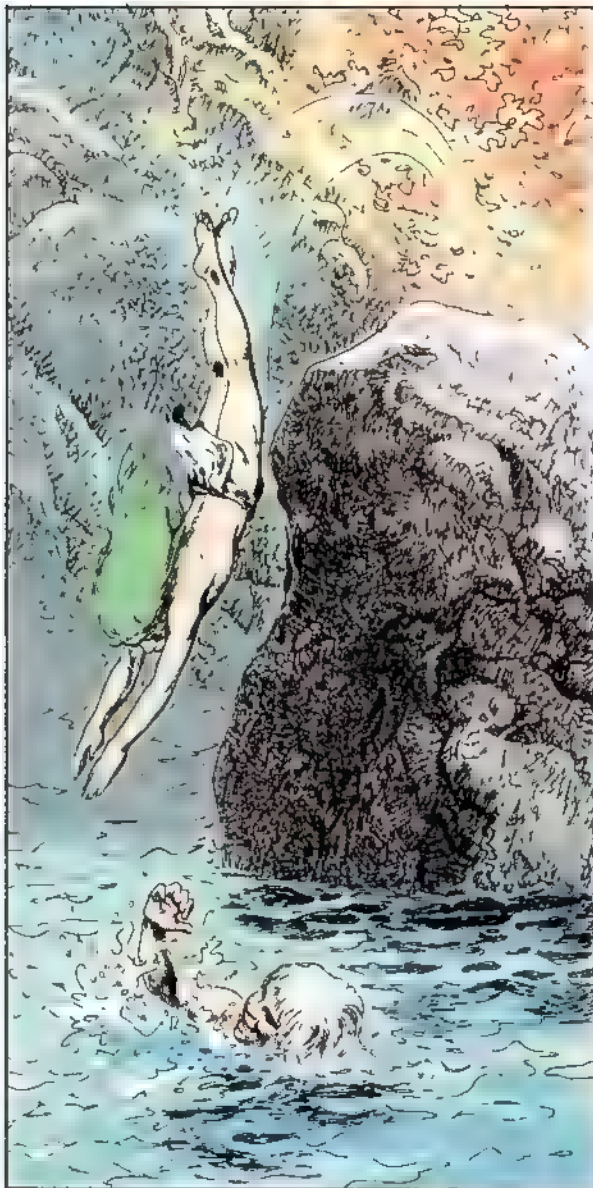
NO, MUFF. YOU STAY HERE. I WANT TO GO AND SWIM ON MY OWN

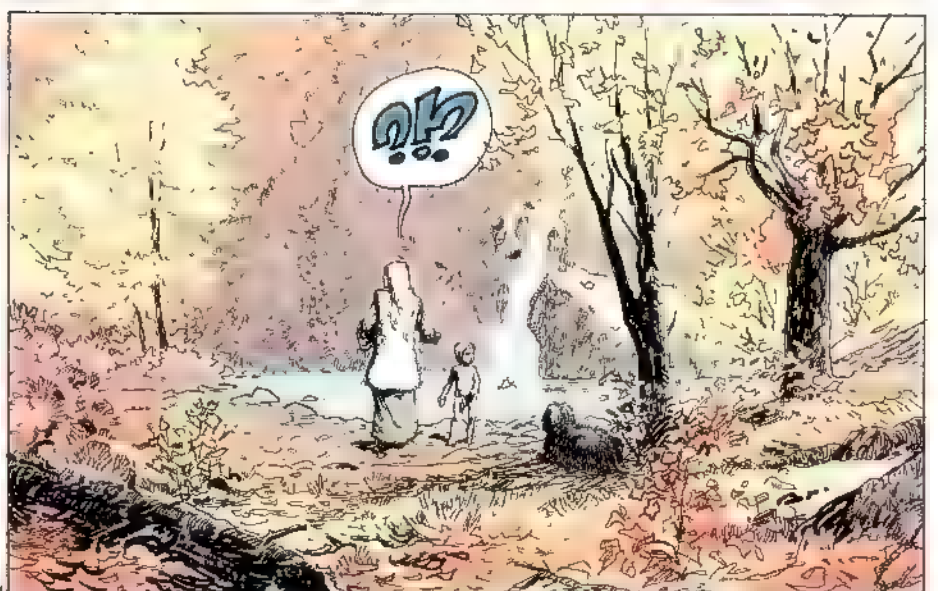
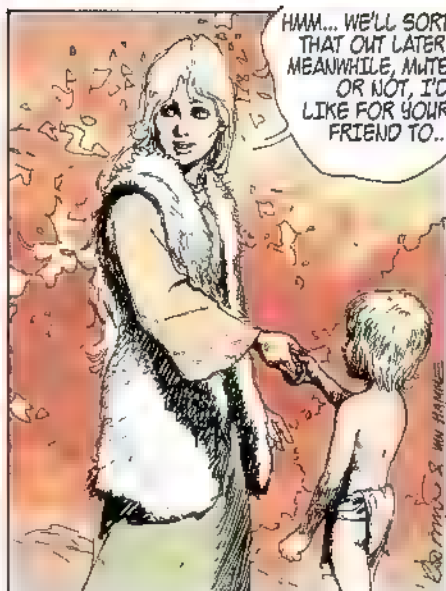
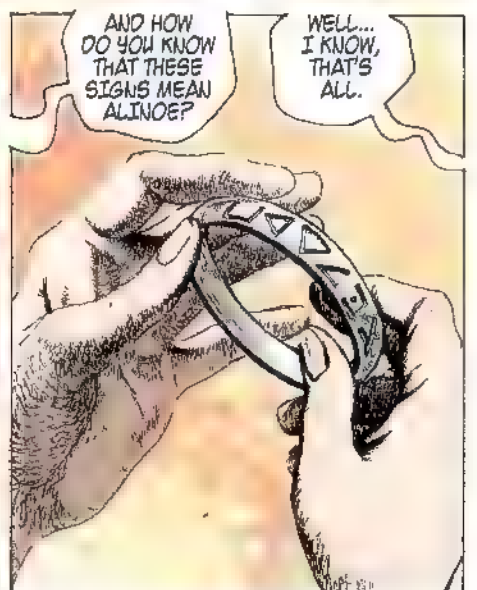
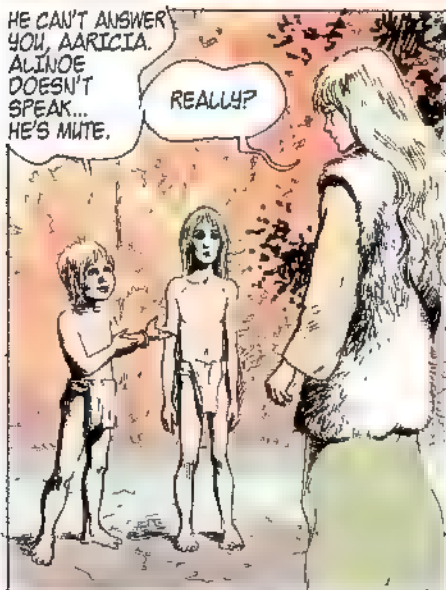
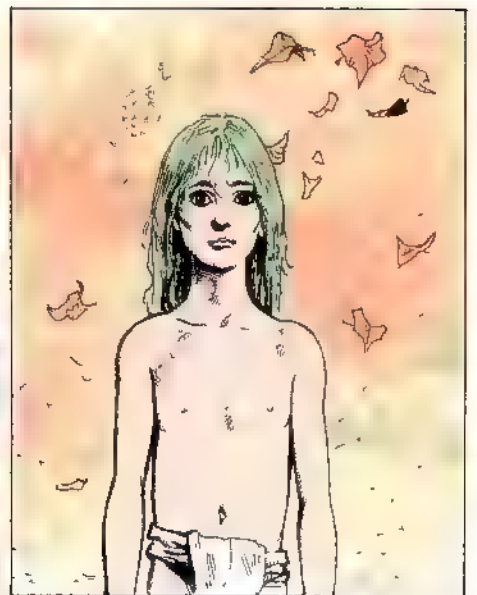
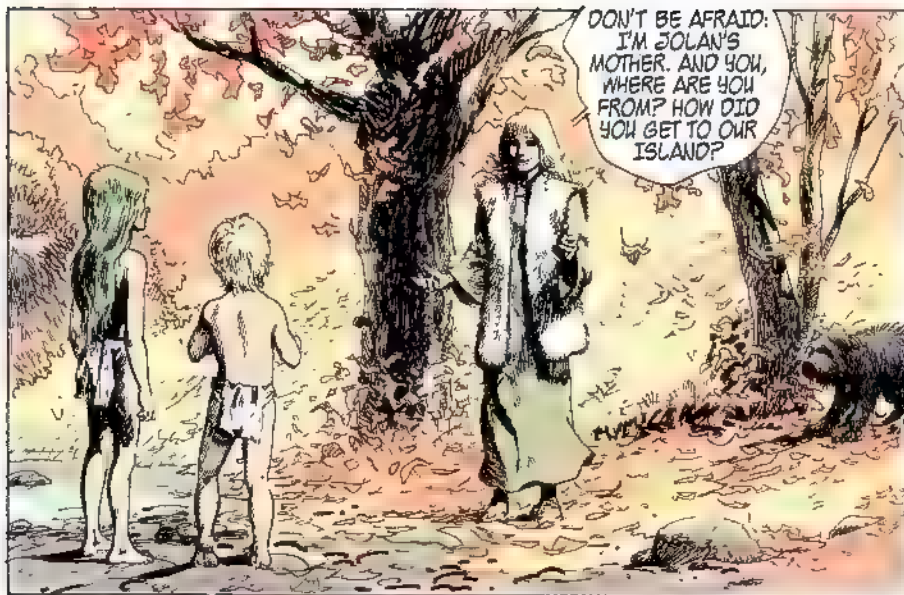




YOU WONDERING WHY YOUR MASTER DIDN'T WANT YOU, EHP? ME TOO, BOY. WHY DON'T WE GO FOR A LITTLE WALK BY THE WATERFALL?

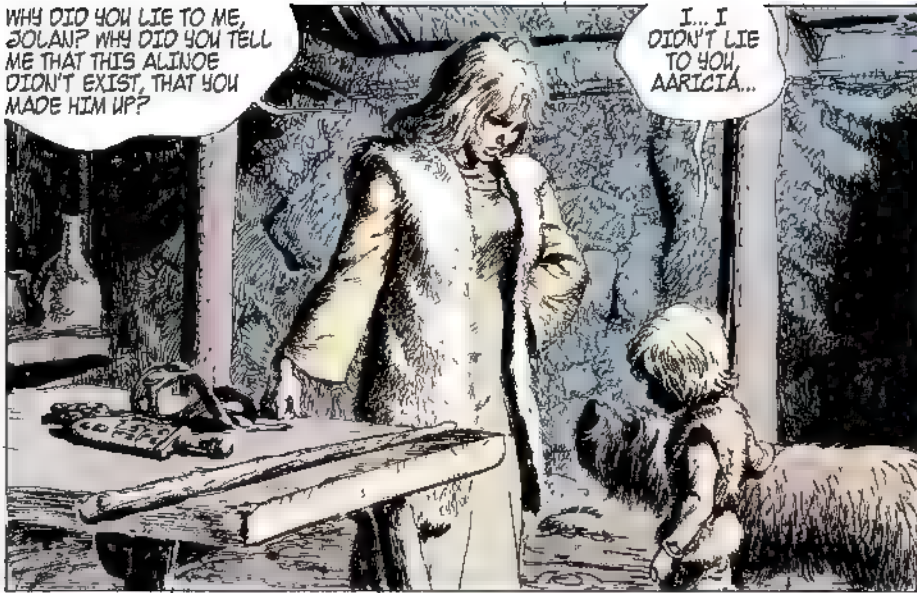






WHY DID YOU LIE TO ME, JOLAN? WHY DID YOU TELL ME THAT THIS ALINOE DIDN'T EXIST, THAT YOU MADE HIM UP?

I... I DIDN'T LIE TO YOU, AARICIA...



I ALWAYS TOLD YOU THE TRUTH, ALWAYS.



I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE STUPID ENOUGH TO DENY THE TRUTH. I'M VERY DISAPPOINTED IN YOU, JOLAN.

BUT I SWEAR...



ENOUGH! I FORBID YOU FROM LEAVING THE HOUSE TILL I GET BACK. I HOPE THAT WILL GIVE YOU TIME TO THINK.

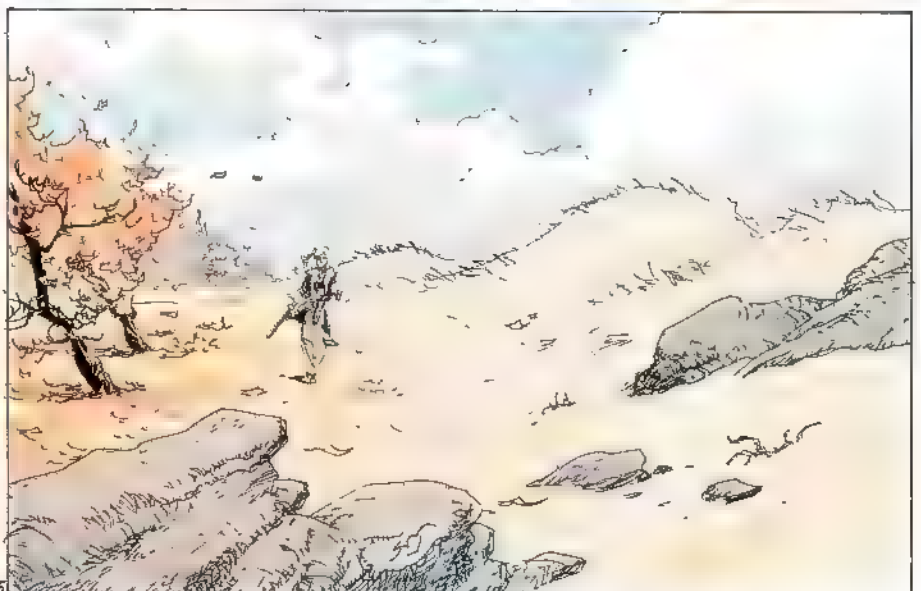
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

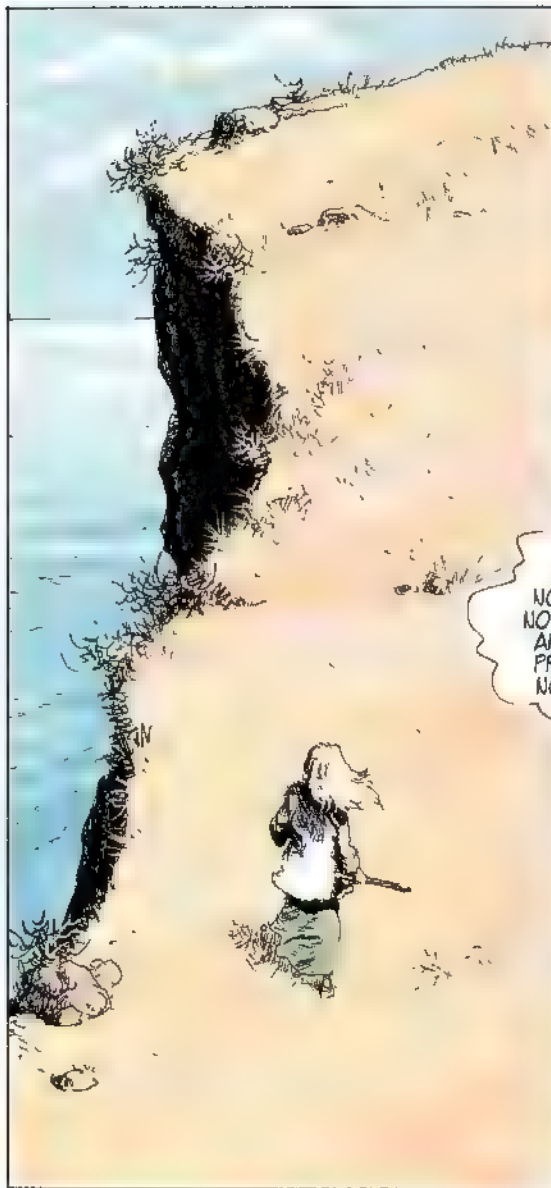


WHAT I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS MORNING: TRY TO FIND OUT IF THESE NEWCOMERS ARE A DANGER OR NOT.

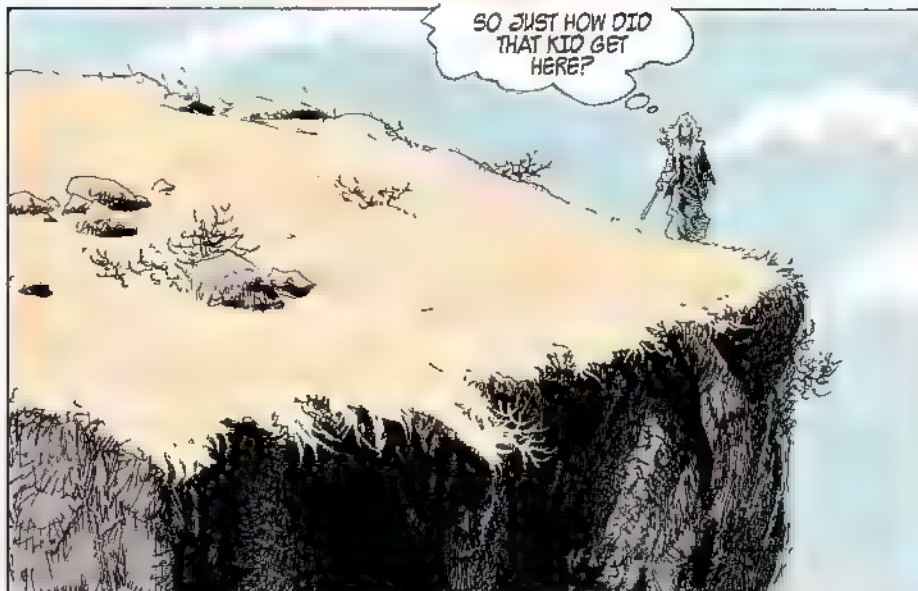
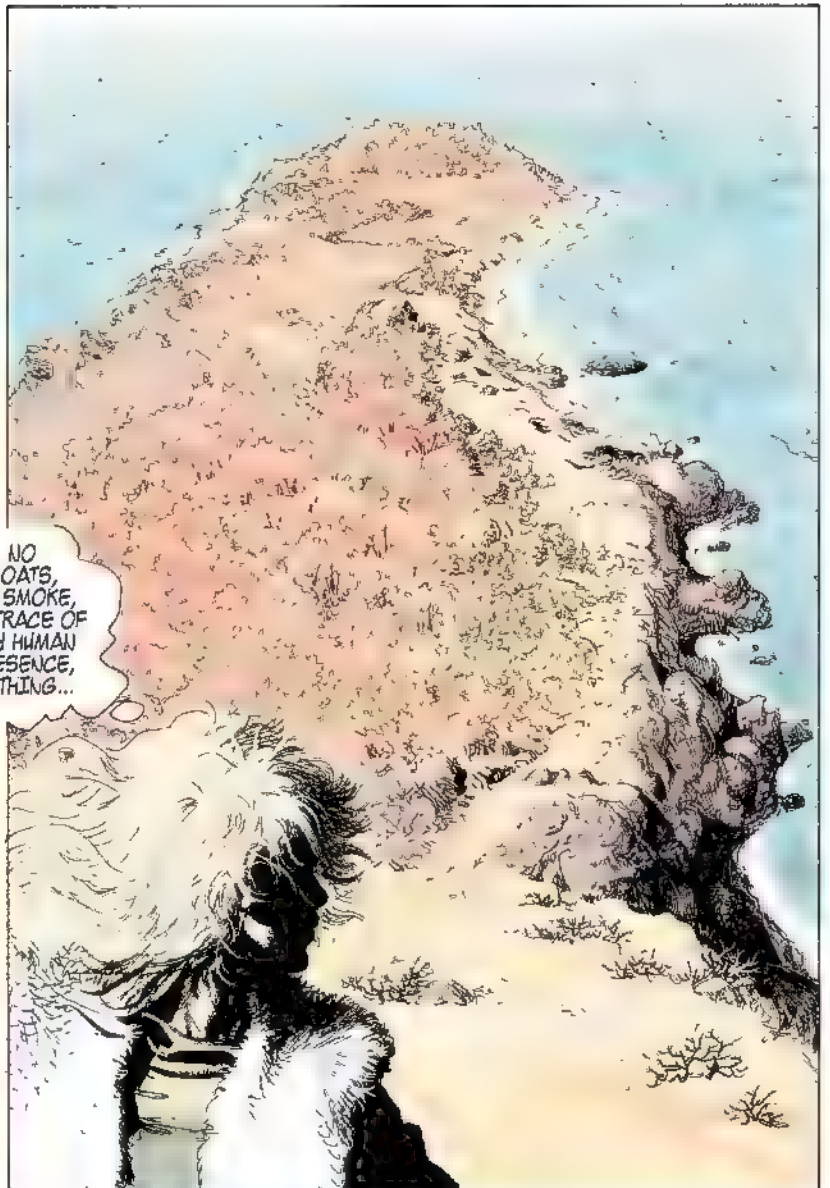


THORGAL, MY LOVE, I'M AFRAID AND I CAN'T SHOW IT. WHY AREN'T YOU HERE?





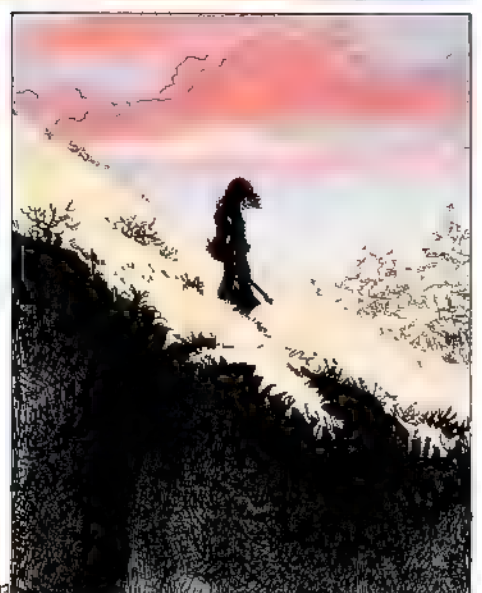
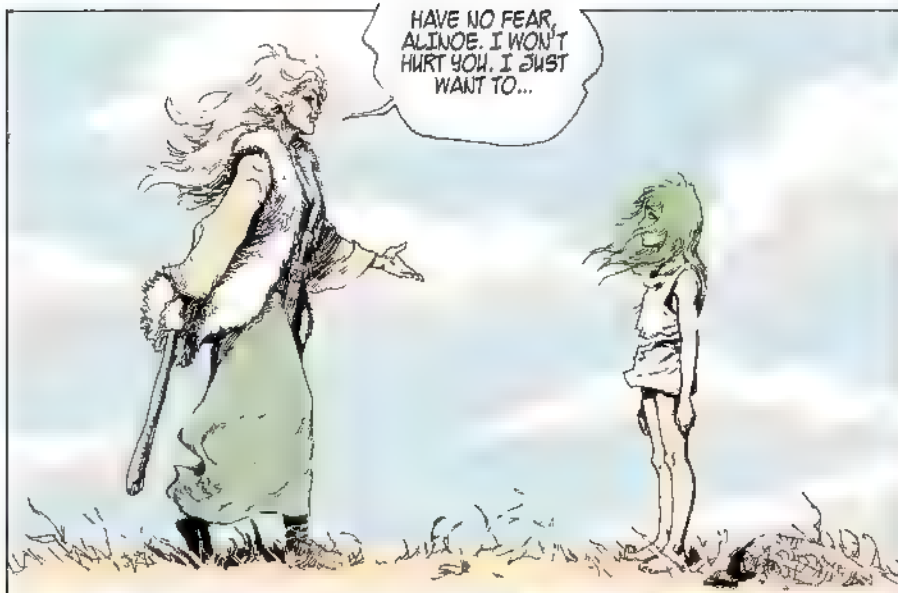
NO
BOATS,
NO SMOKE,
NO TRACE OF
ANY HUMAN
PRESENCE,
NOTHING...

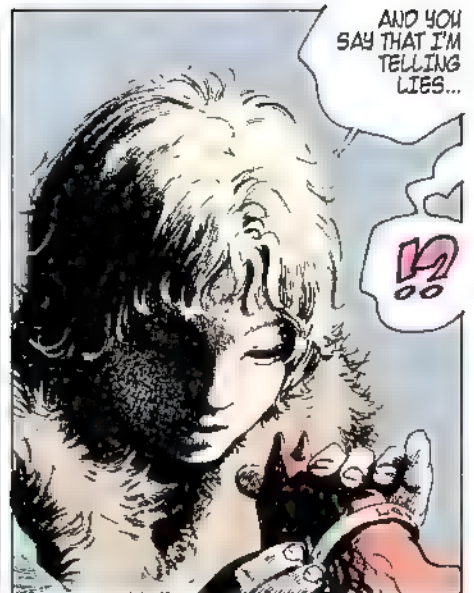


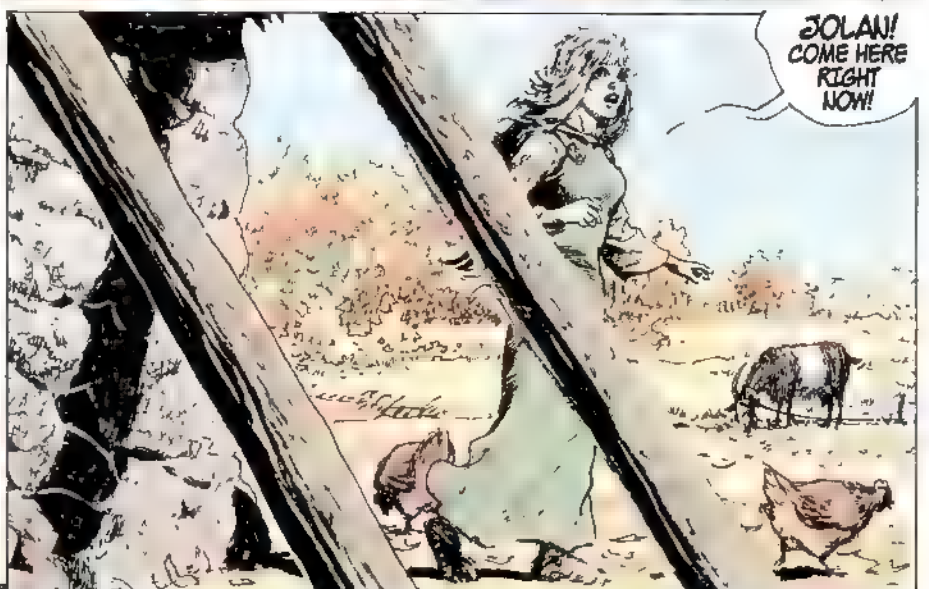
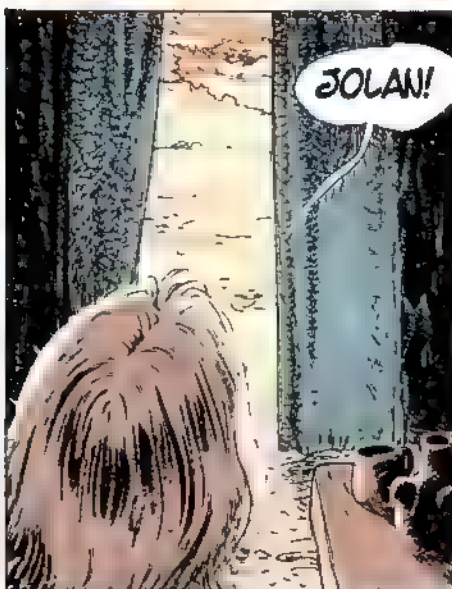
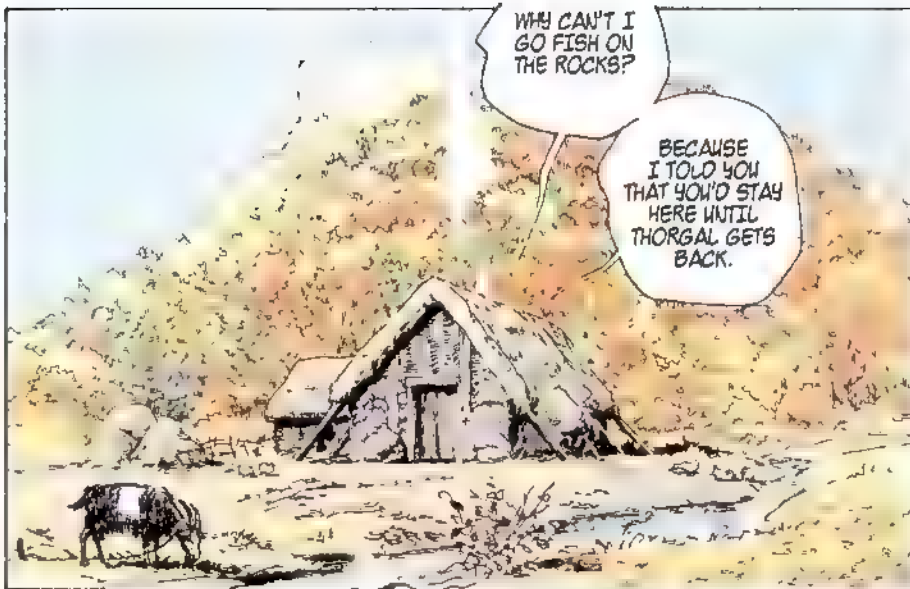
SO JUST HOW DID
THAT KID GET
HERE?

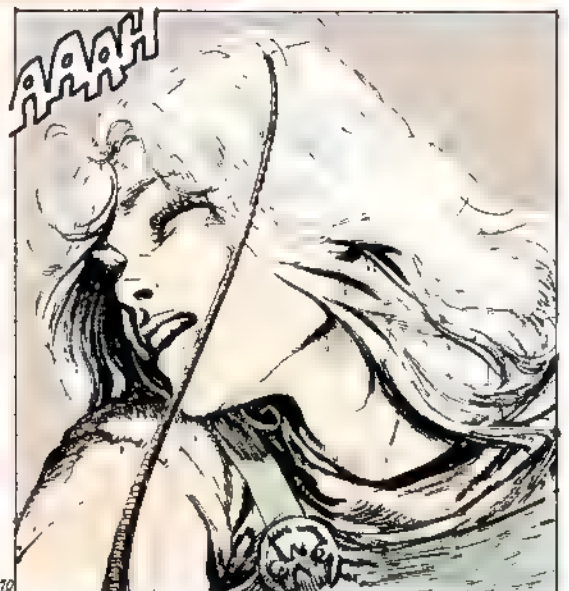
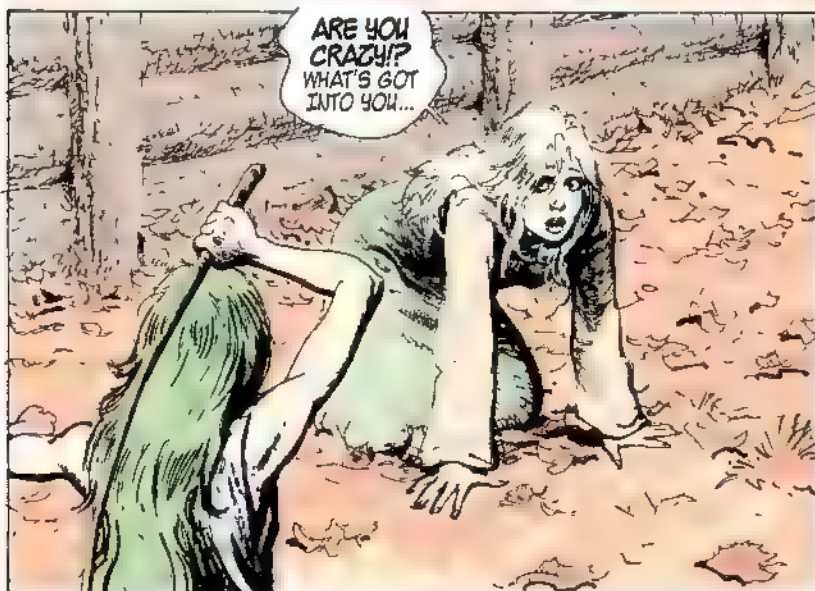
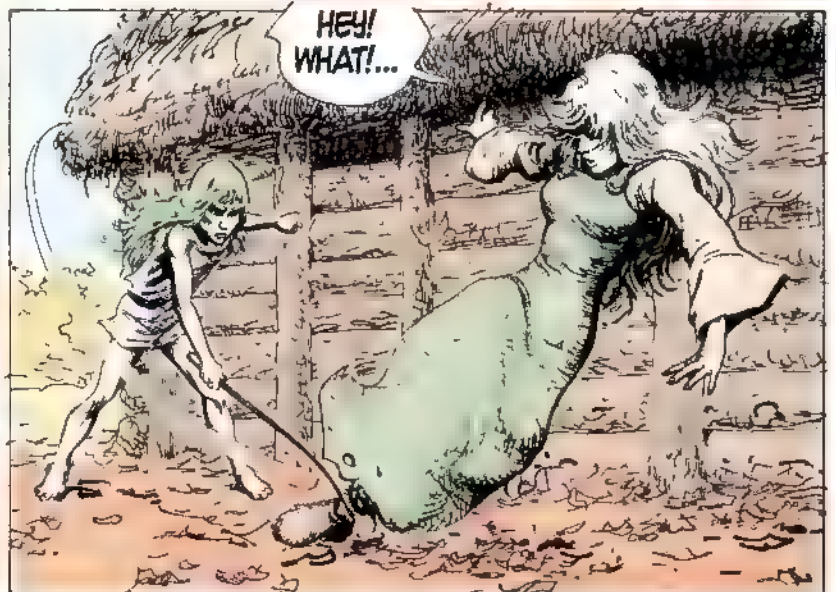
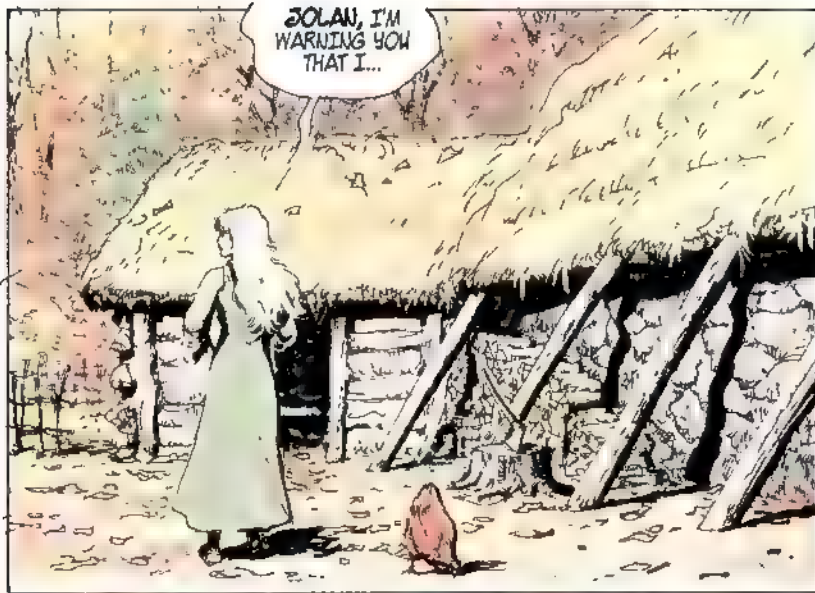


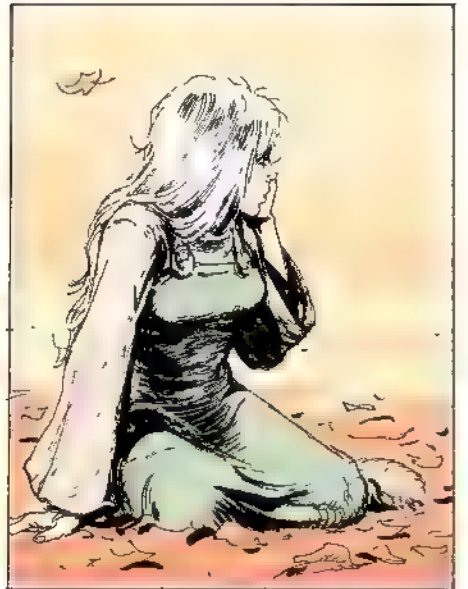
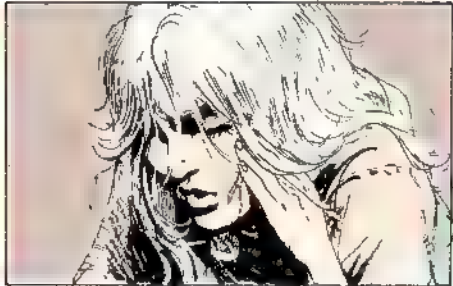
!!!











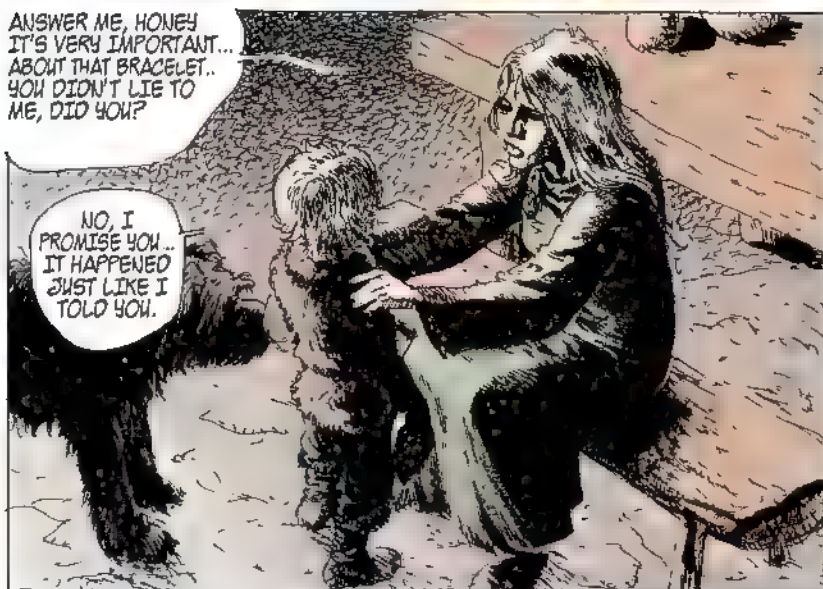


WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!

I SAID THAT YOU DESERVED THAT... BECAUSE YOU WERE MEAN.

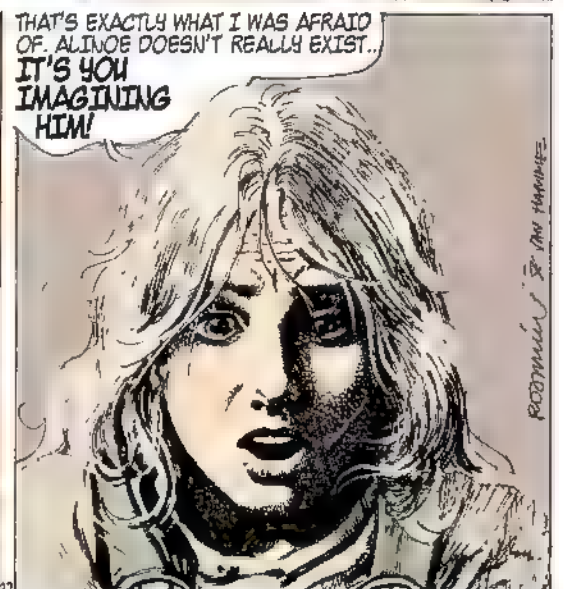


I'M SORRY, AARICIA... I WON'T DO IT AGAIN...



ANSWER ME, HONEY IT'S VERY IMPORTANT... ABOUT THAT BRACELET... YOU DIDN'T LIE TO ME, DID YOU?

NO, I PROMISE YOU... IT HAPPENED JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU.

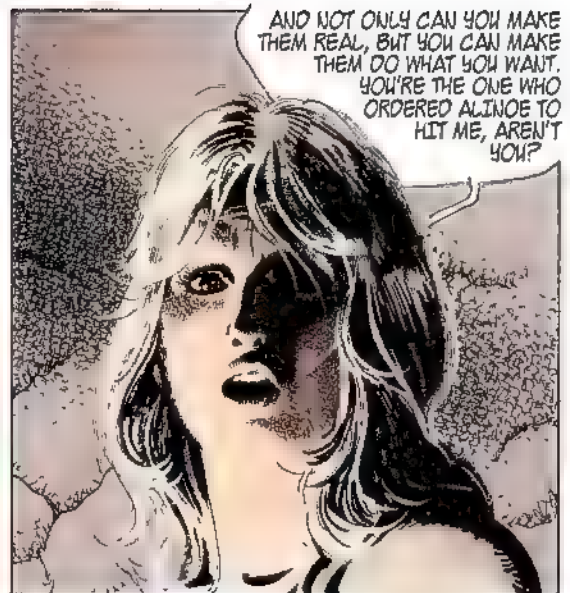


THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF. ALINOE DOESN'T REALLY EXIST... IT'S YOU IMAGINING HIM!

ROOMMATE: 18 AM HANNAH



YOU WANTED A FRIEND TO PLAY WITH SO MUCH... WHEN YOU FOUND THE BRACELET, YOU HAD SOME FUN IMAGINING A BOY WITH GREEN HAIR HAD GIVEN IT TO YOU AND THAT BOY BECAME REAL! I CAN'T QUITE BELIEVE IT, SOLAN: YOU'VE GOT THE POWER TO MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE!!

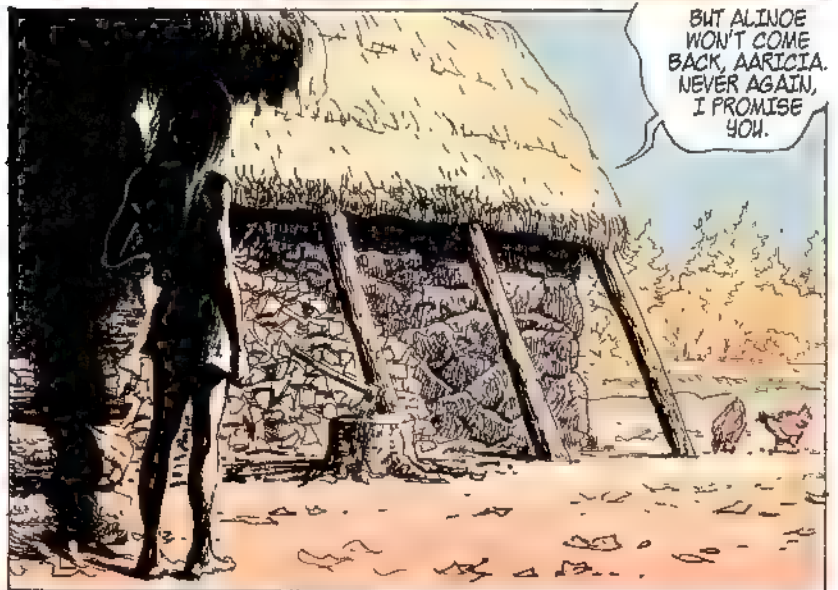


AND NOT ONLY CAN YOU MAKE THEM REAL, BUT YOU CAN MAKE THEM DO WHAT YOU WANT. YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ORDERED ALINOE TO HIT ME, AREN'T YOU?

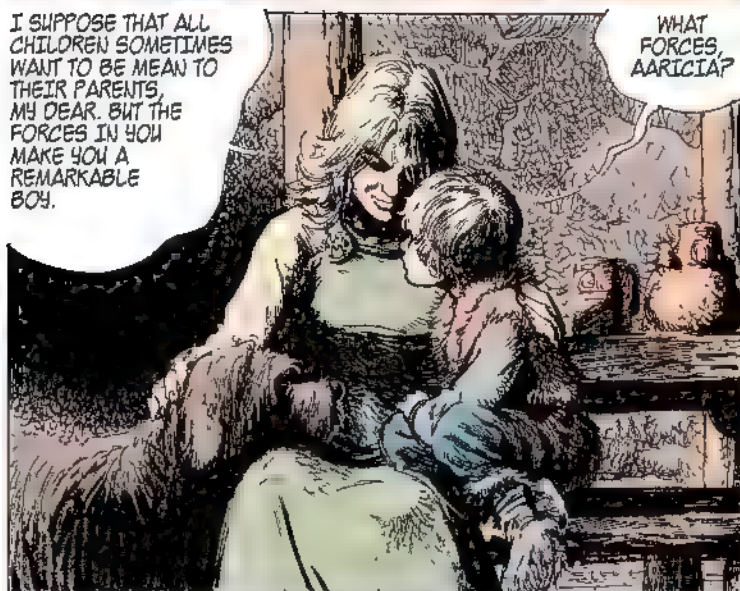


YOU WANTED TO PUNISH ME FOR BEING UNFAIR WITH YOU, RIGHT?

I... I DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO... I DIDN'T REALISE...

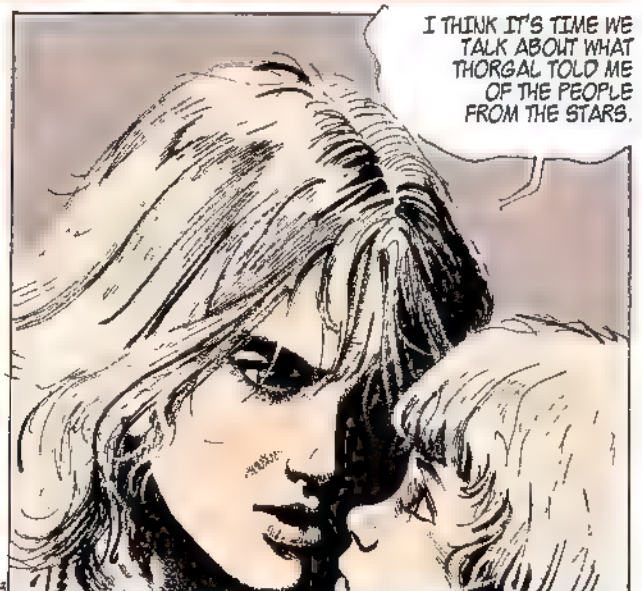


BUT ALINOE WON'T COME BACK, AARICIA. NEVER AGAIN, I PROMISE YOU.



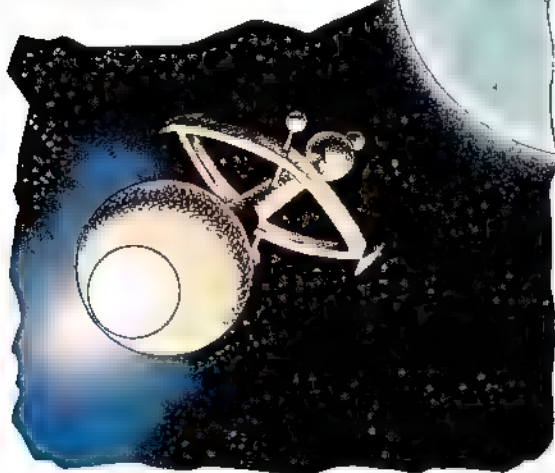
I SUPPOSE THAT ALL CHILDREN SOMETIMES WANT TO BE MEAN TO THEIR PARENTS, MY DEAR. BUT THE FORCES IN YOU MAKE YOU A REMARKABLE BOY.

WHAT FORCES, AARICIA?



I THINK IT'S TIME WE TALK ABOUT WHAT THORGAL TOLD ME OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE STARS.

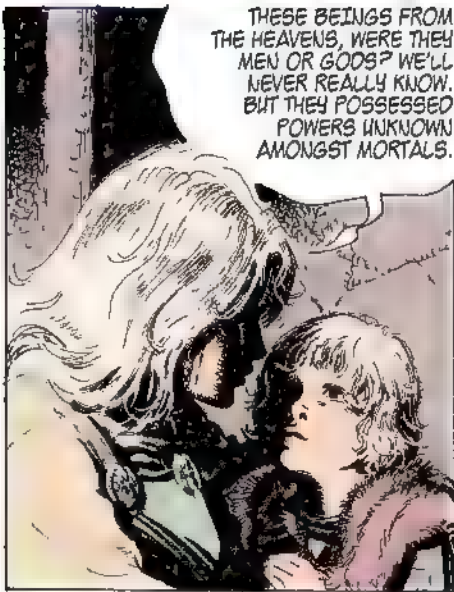
ONE DAY, THE INHABITANTS OF A DISTANT STAR ARRIVED ON OUR PLANET EARTH ABOARD A SPACE DRAKKAR. BUT THEIR VESSEL CRASHED ON A DESERT ISLAND.



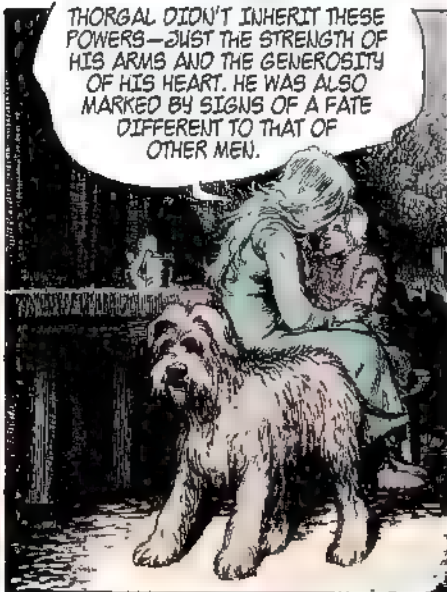
GROUNDLED, SHORT OF RESOURCES, THE VESSEL'S OCCUPANTS DIED ONE AFTER THE OTHER. EXCEPT FOR A NEWBORN, WHOSE MOTHER HAD ENTRUSTED HIM TO THE OCEAN IN A STRANGE FLOAT AND WHO WAS FOUND BY THE NORTHERN VIKINGS. THIS NEWBORN WAS YOUR FATHER, JOLAN.*



THESE BEINGS FROM THE HEAVENS, WERE THEY MEN OR GODS? WE'LL NEVER REALLY KNOW. BUT THEY POSSESSED POWERS UNKNOWN AMONGST MORTALS.



THORGAL DIDN'T INHERIT THESE POWERS—JUST THE STRENGTH OF HIS ARMS AND THE GENEROSITY OF HIS HEART. HE WAS ALSO MARKED BY SIGNS OF A FATE DIFFERENT TO THAT OF OTHER MEN.



BUT THROUGH HIS BLOOD, HE PASSED ON CERTAIN POWERS FROM THE PEOPLE OF THE STARS TO YOU. WHICH ONES EXACTLY? I DON'T KNOW YET. BUT I'M AFRAID, JOLAN, AFRAID OF YOU. I'D HAVE LIKED FOR YOU TO BE JUST A LITTLE BOY LIKE THE OTHERS.

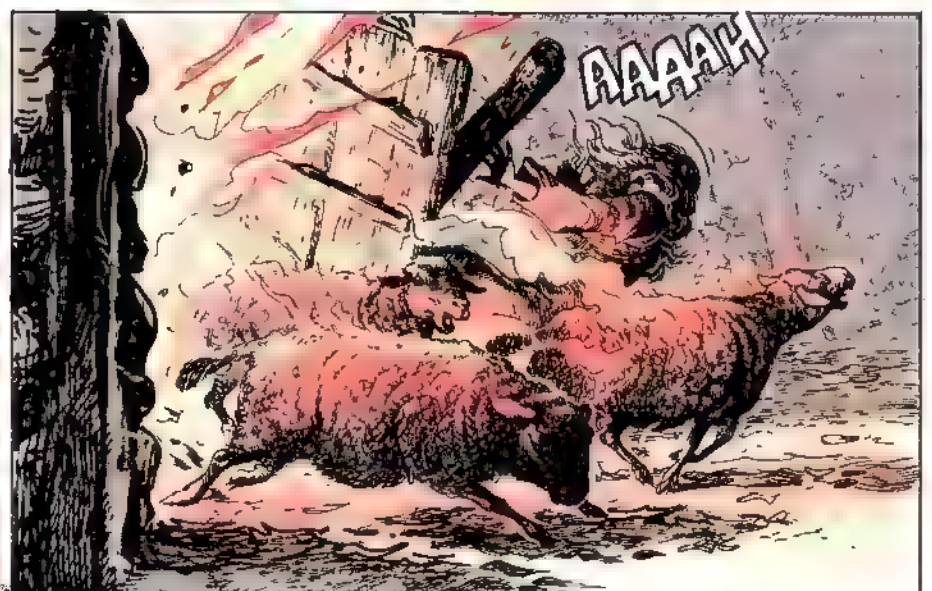
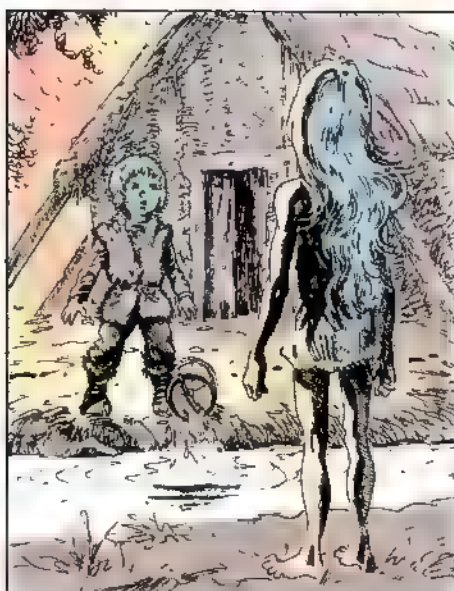
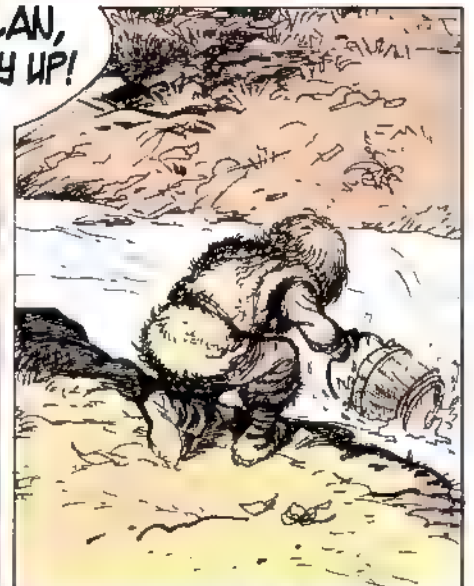


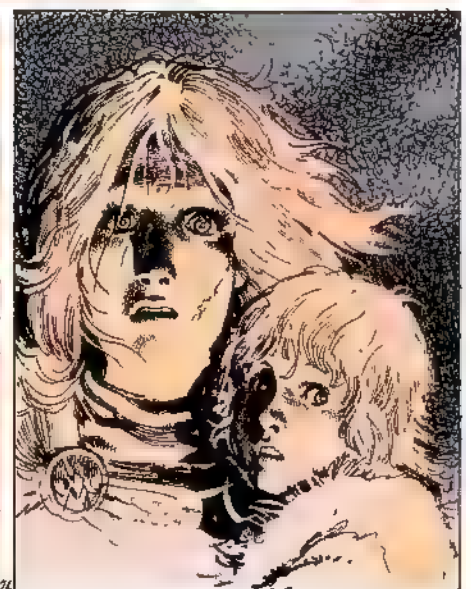
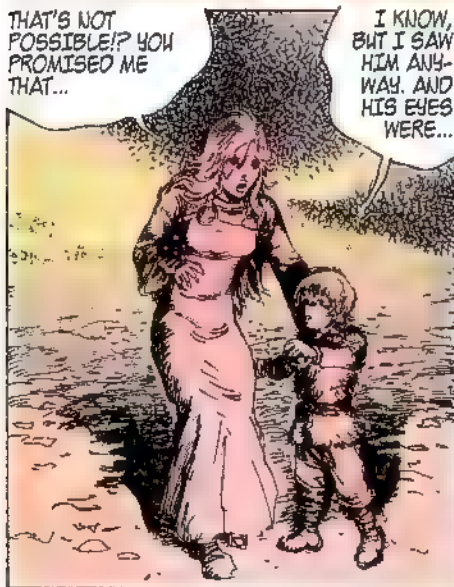
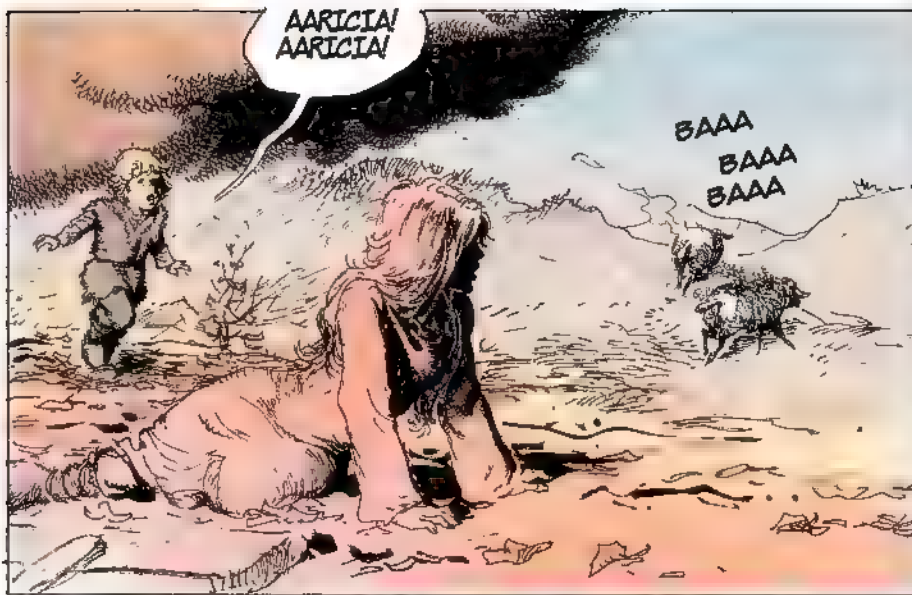
UNFORTUNATELY, YOU...?P?

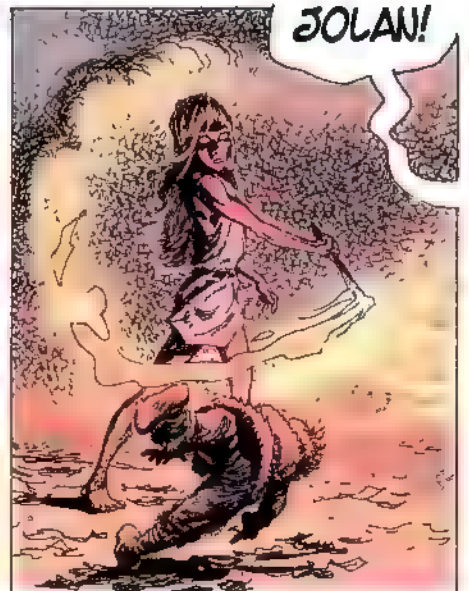
WOOF WOOF



* SEE CHILD OF THE STARS

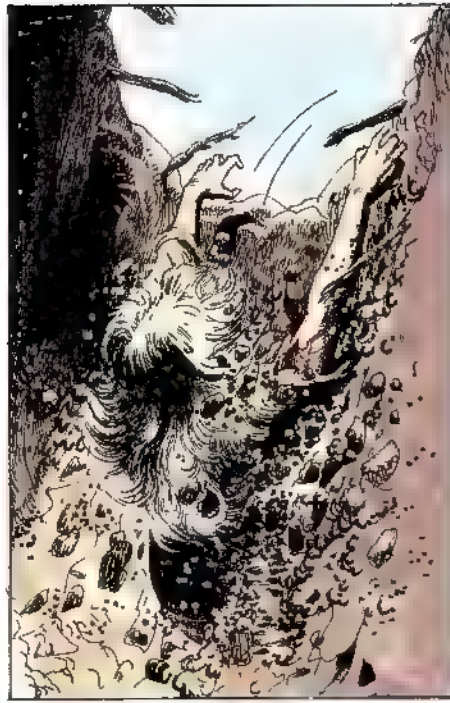
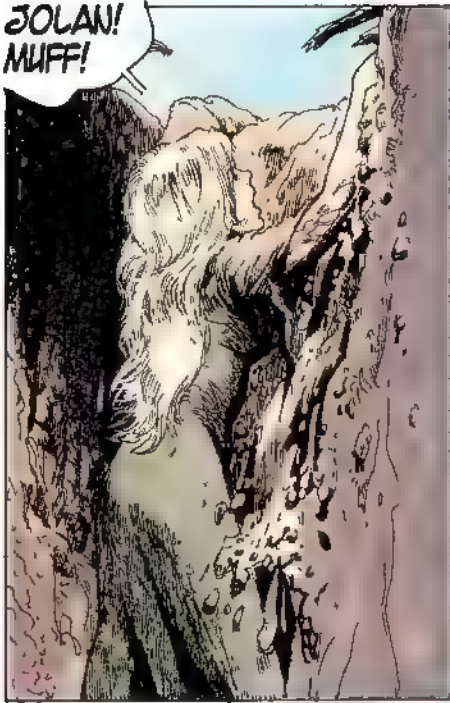






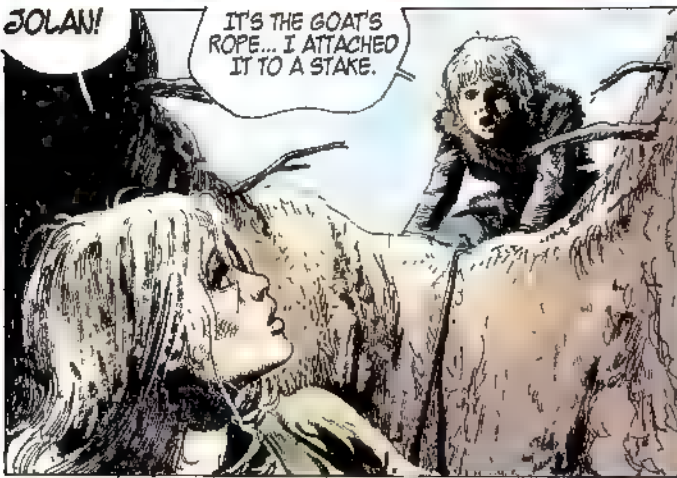


JOLAN!
MUFF!

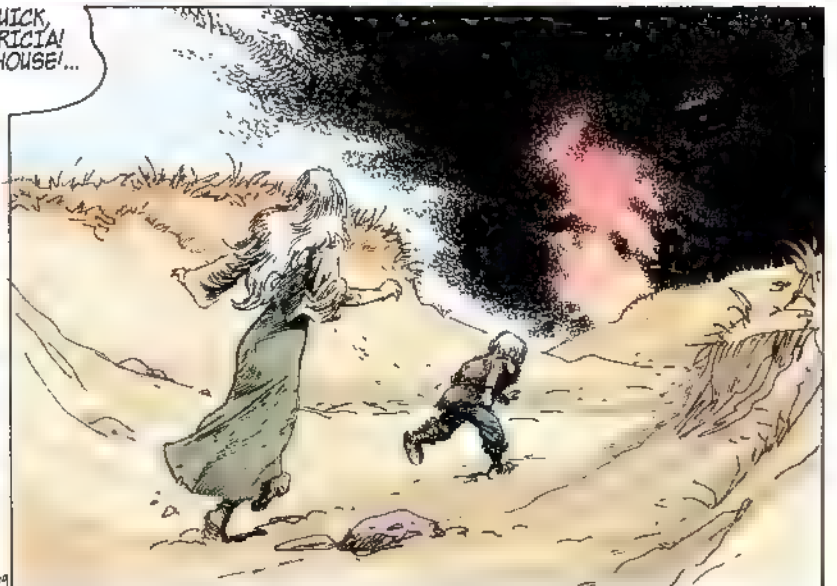
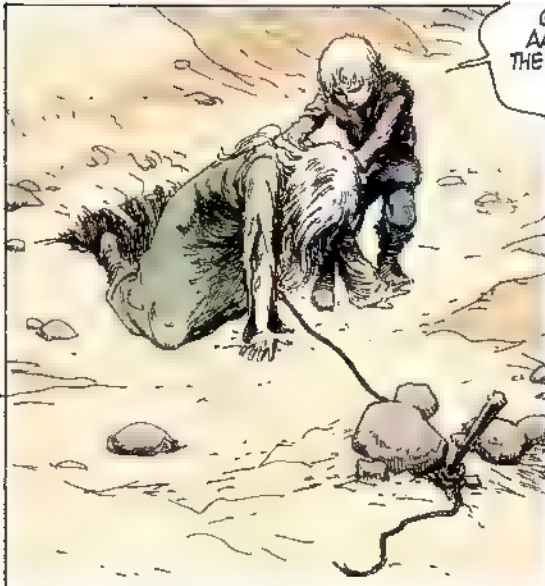


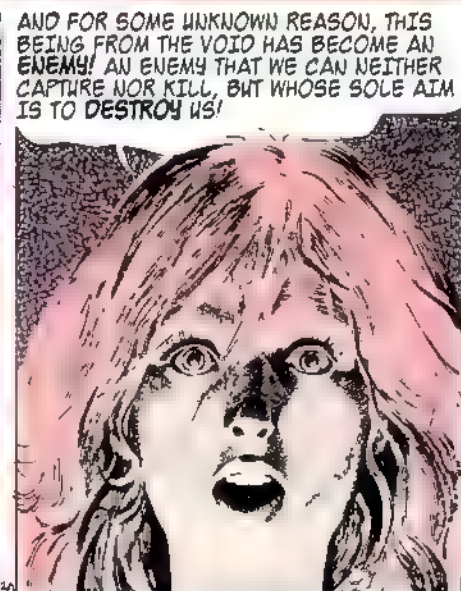
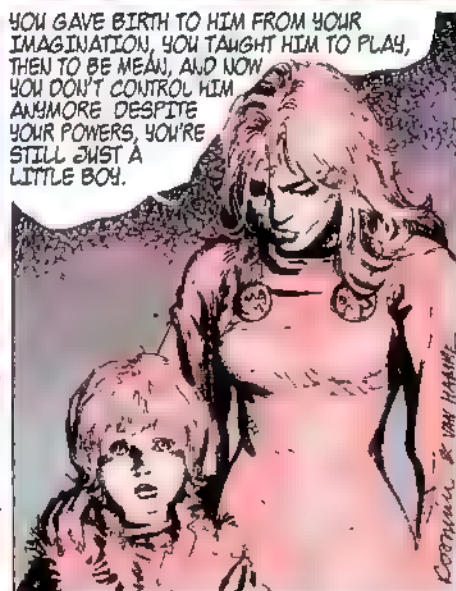
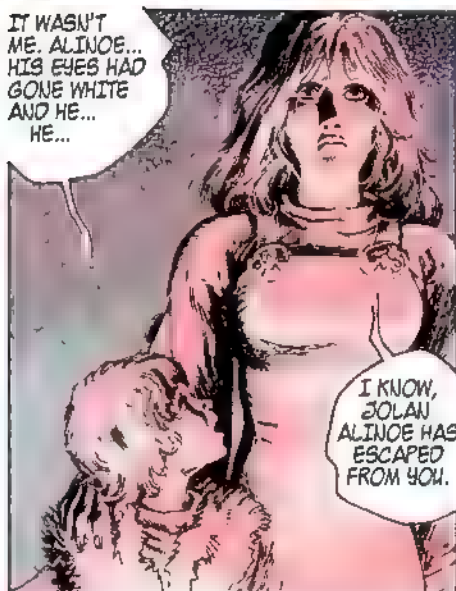
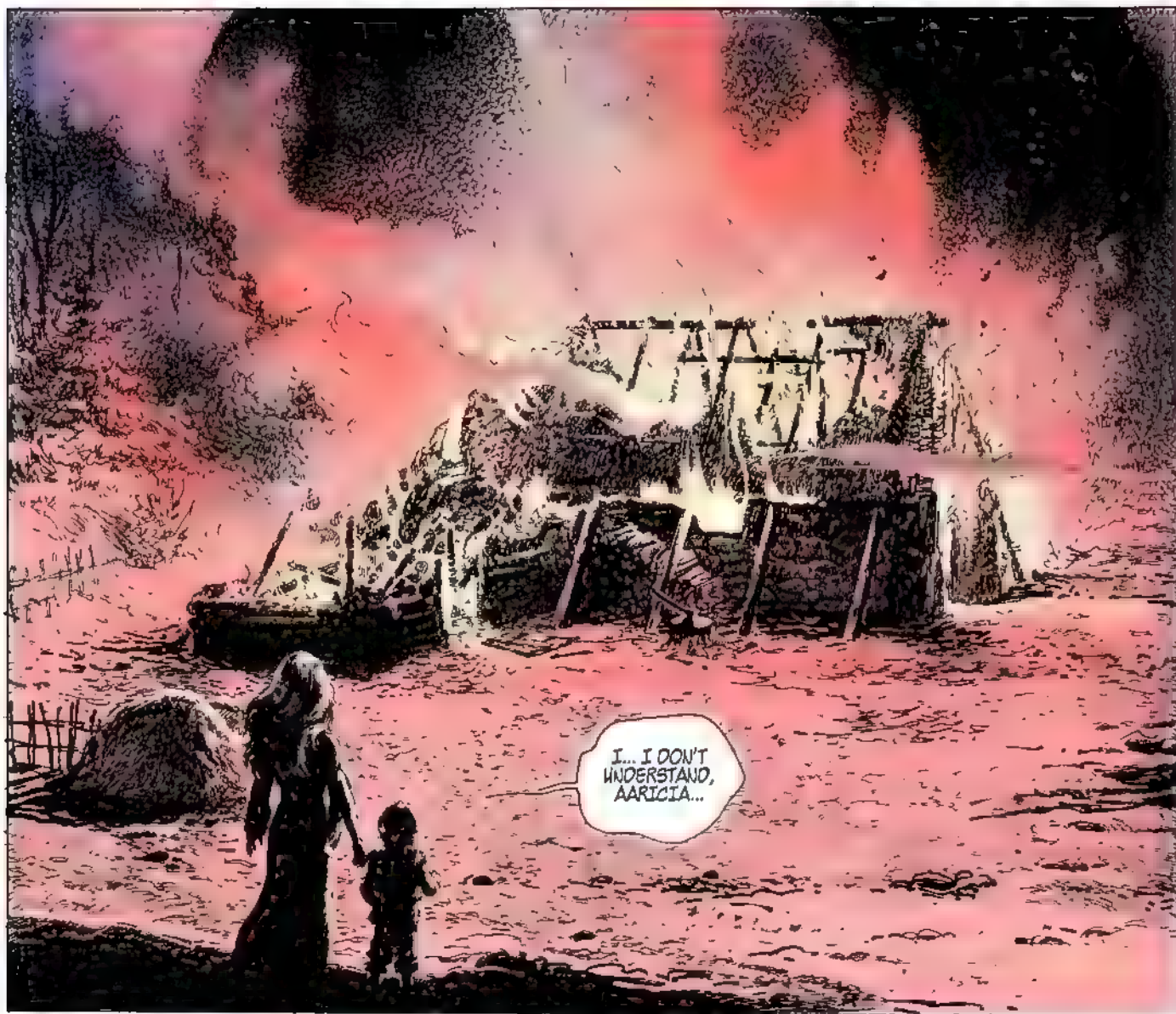
JOLAN!

IT'S THE GOAT'S
ROPE... I ATTACHED
IT TO A STAKE.



QUICK,
AARICIA!
THE HOUSE!...





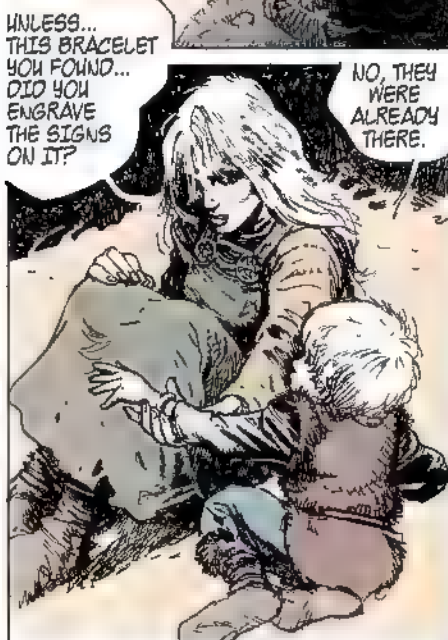


I WAS NAIVE TO THINK THAT LIVING ON A DESERTED ISLAND, WE'D BE SHELTERED FROM THE CURSE WITH WHICH THE GODS SEEM TO PURSUE US. SO MUCH EFFORT DESTROYED, SO MANY MONTHS OF WORK...

THORGAL WILL BE BACK SOON, RIGHT?

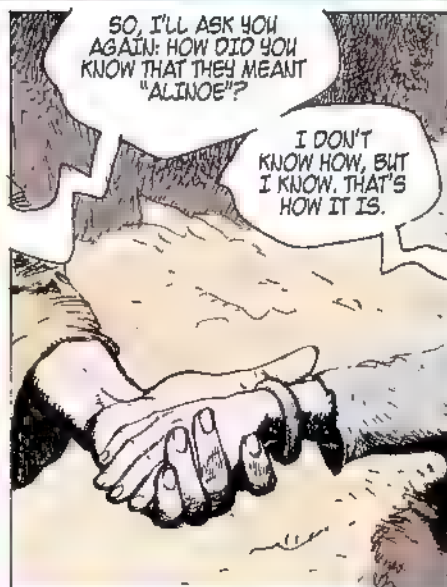


TODAY, FOR SURE. OR TOMORROW. YOU'RE OF THE SAME RACE, YOU AND HIM. I HOPE THAT HE'LL FIND A SOLUTION... IF WE'RE STILL HERE WHEN HE GETS BACK.



UNLESS... THIS BRACELET YOU FOUND... DID YOU ENGRAVE THE SIGNS ON IT?

NO, THEY WERE ALREADY THERE.

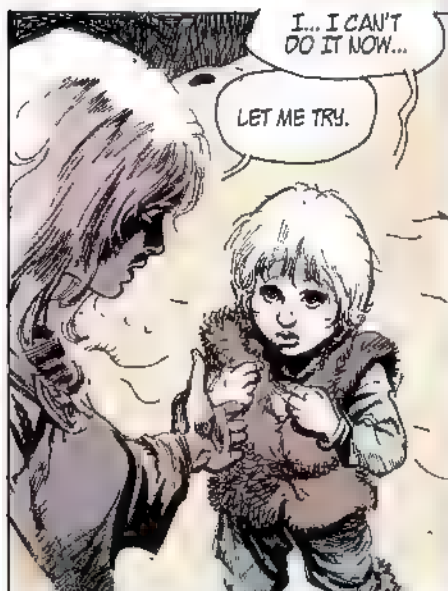


SO, I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN: HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT THEY MEANT "ALINOE"?

I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT I KNOW THAT'S HOW IT IS.

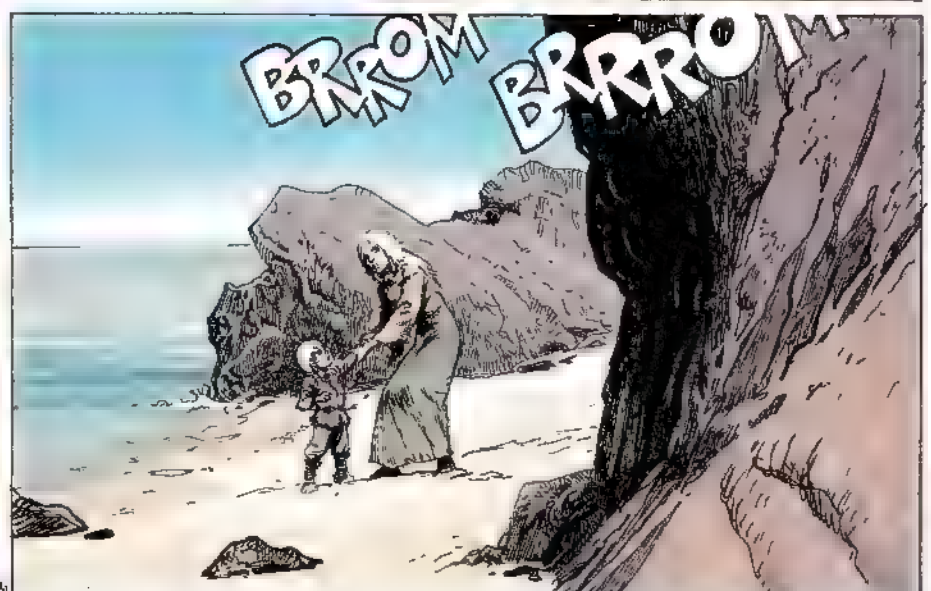


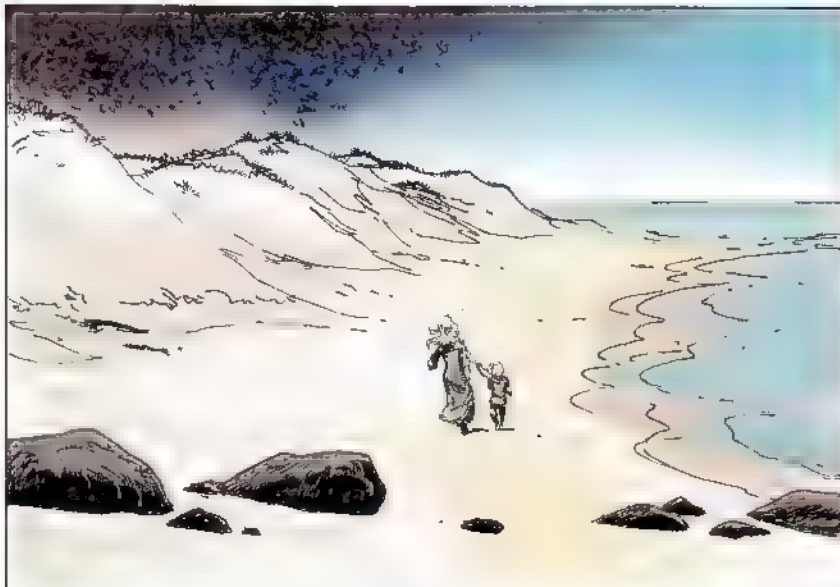
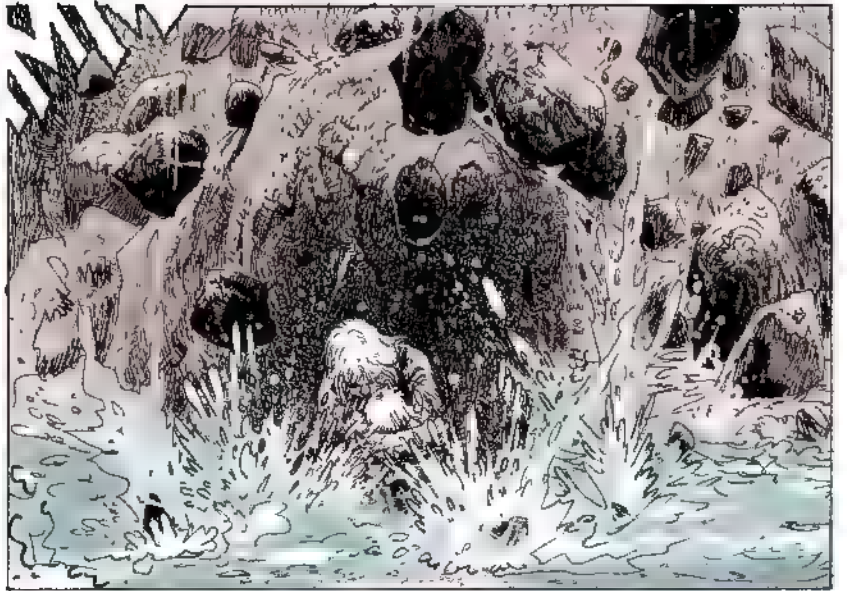
PERHAPS IT'S THE BRACELET BEHIND ALL THIS. TAKE IT OFF, QUICKLY, AND THROW IT IN THE SEA! QUICK!

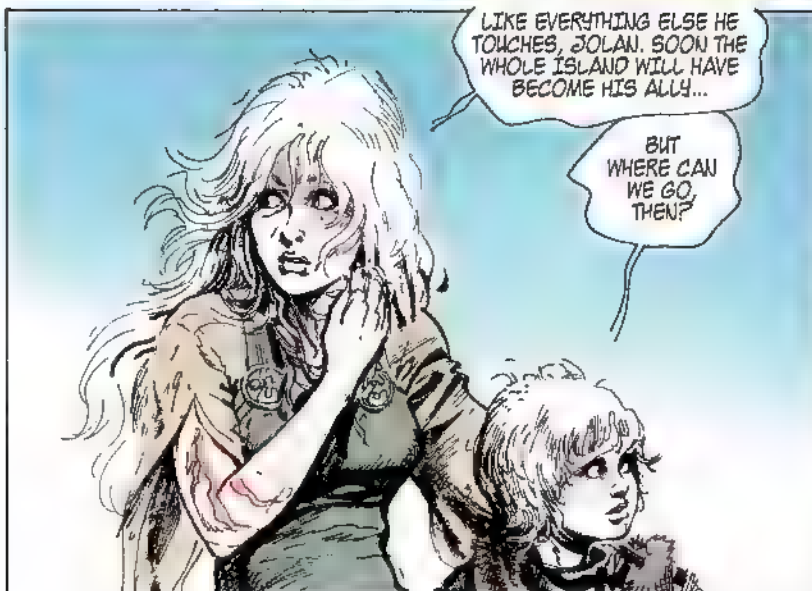
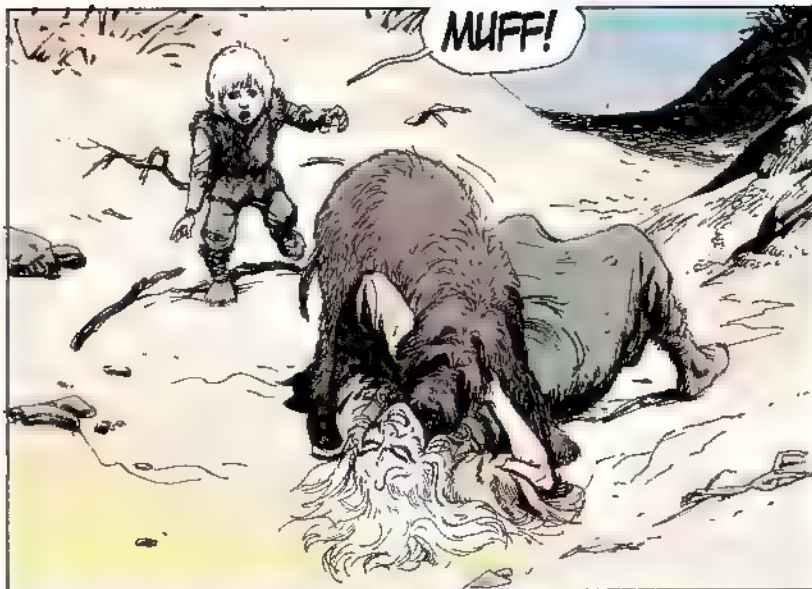


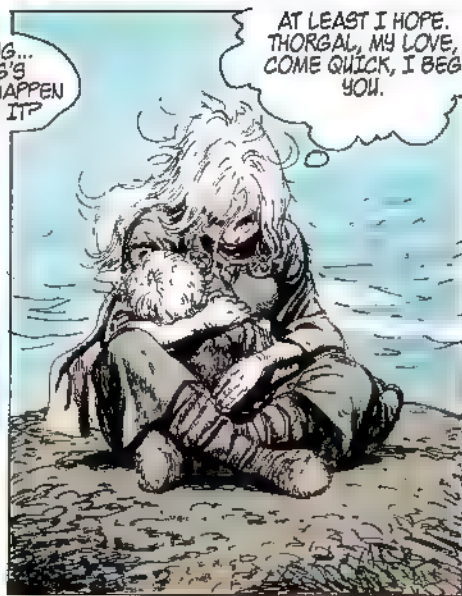
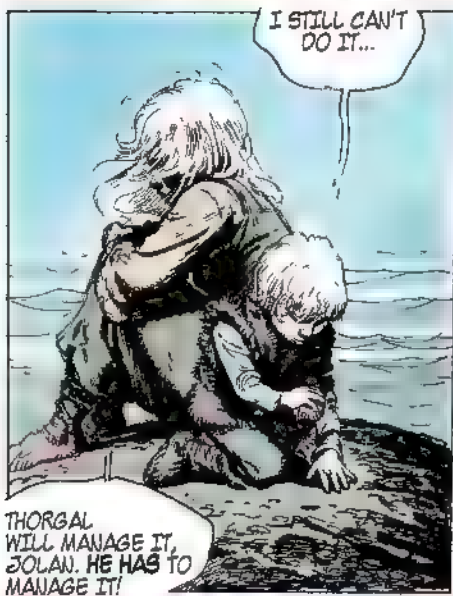
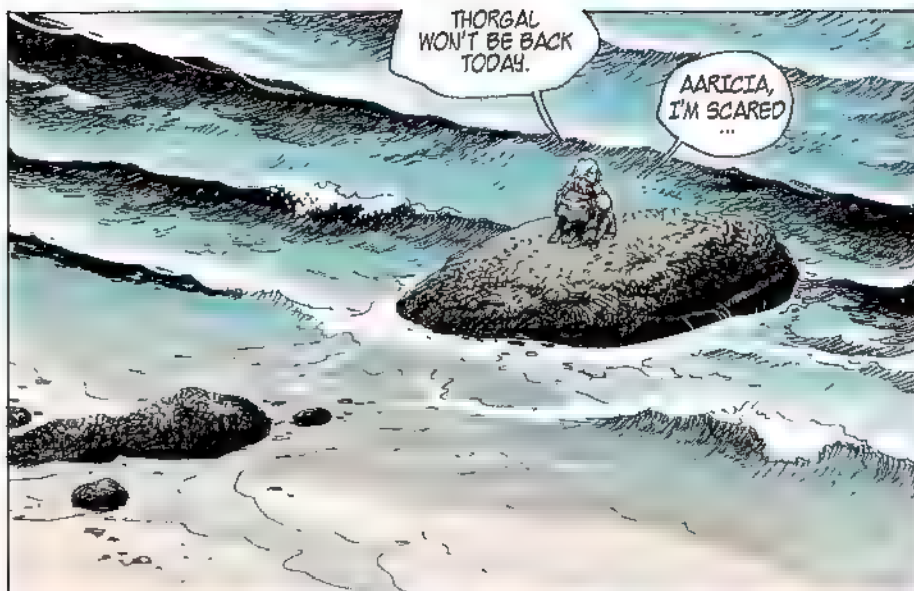
I... I CAN'T DO IT NOW...

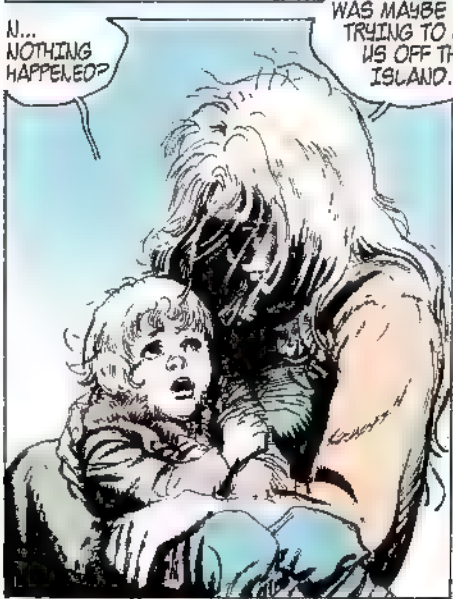
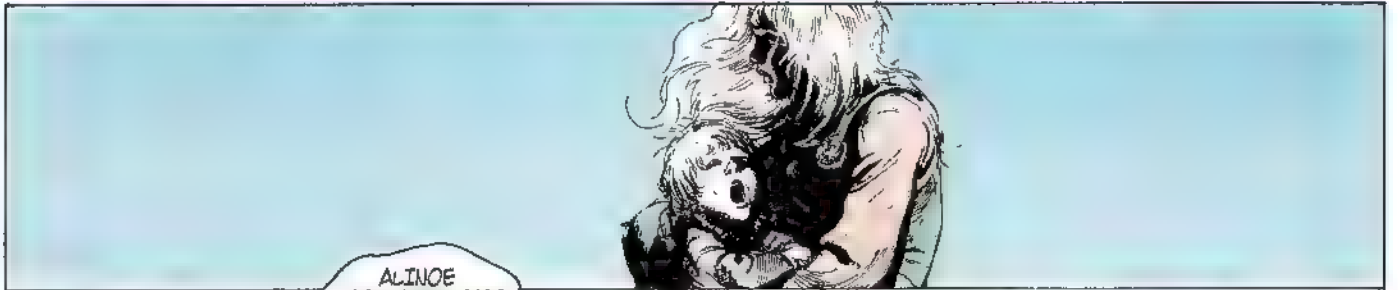
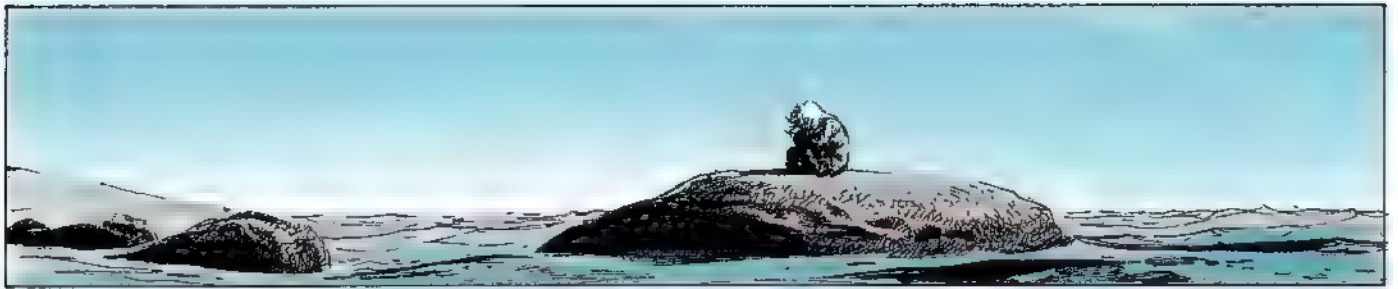
LET ME TRY.





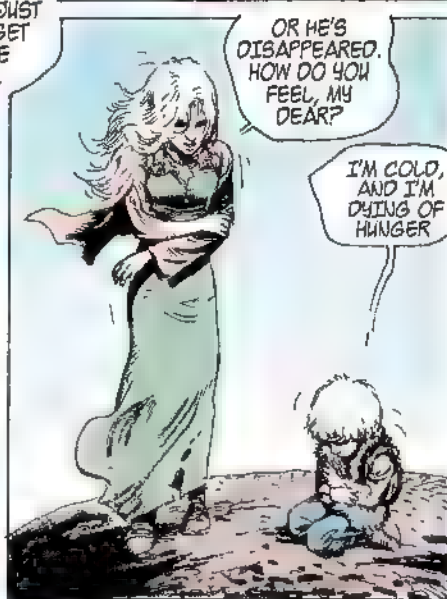






N...
NOTHING
HAPPENED?

ALINOE
WAS MAYBE JUST
TRYING TO GET
US OFF THE
ISLAND...



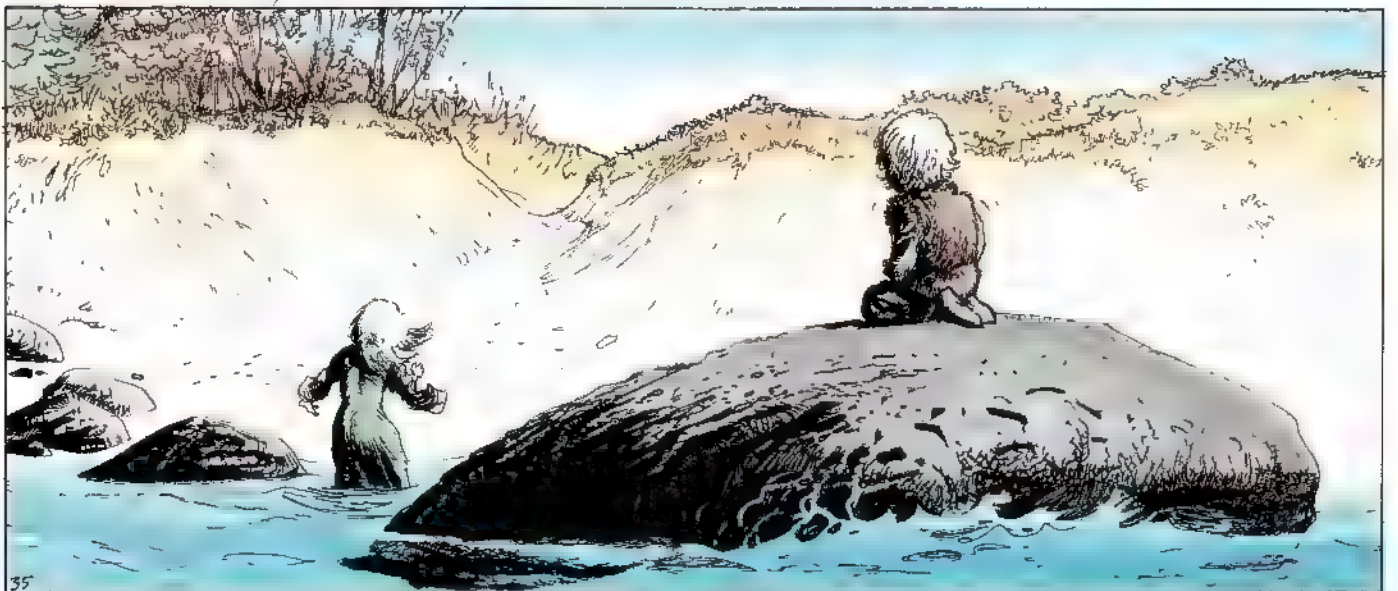
OR HE'S
DISAPPEARED.
HOW DO YOU
FEEL, MY
DEAR?

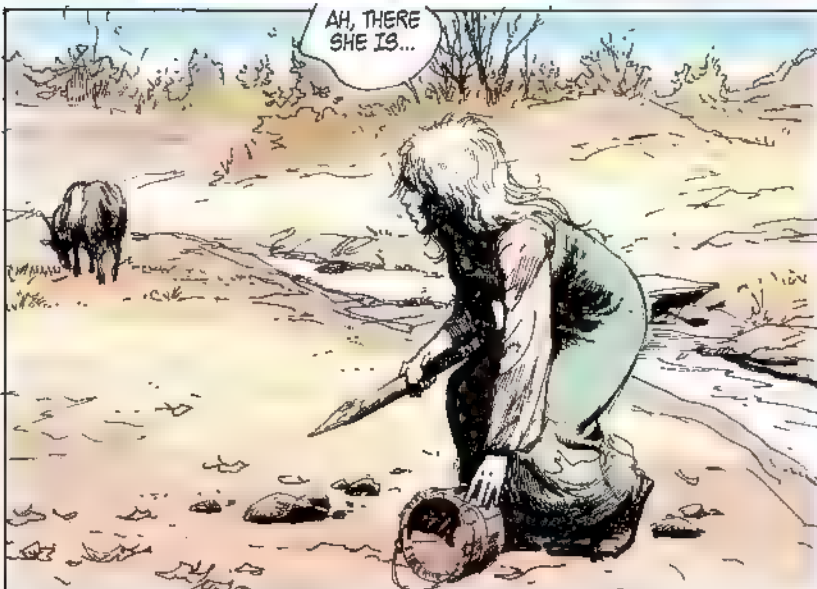
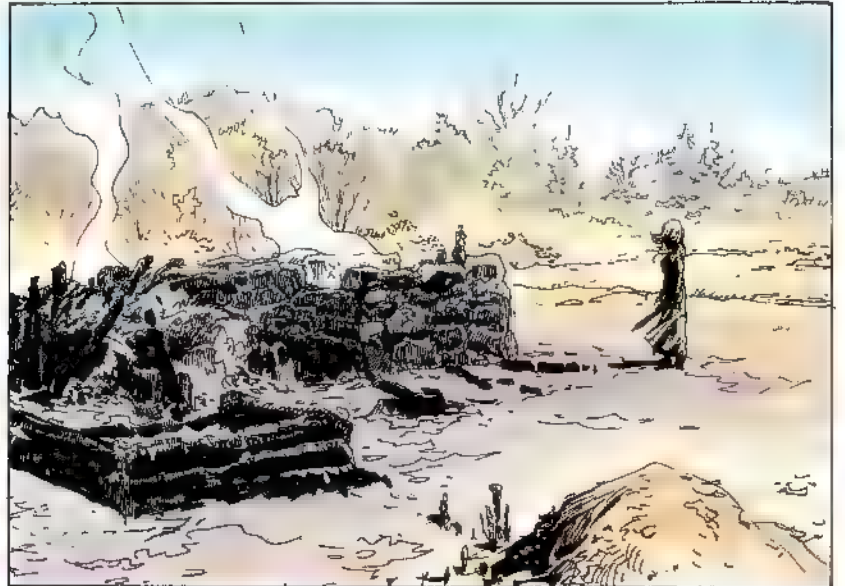
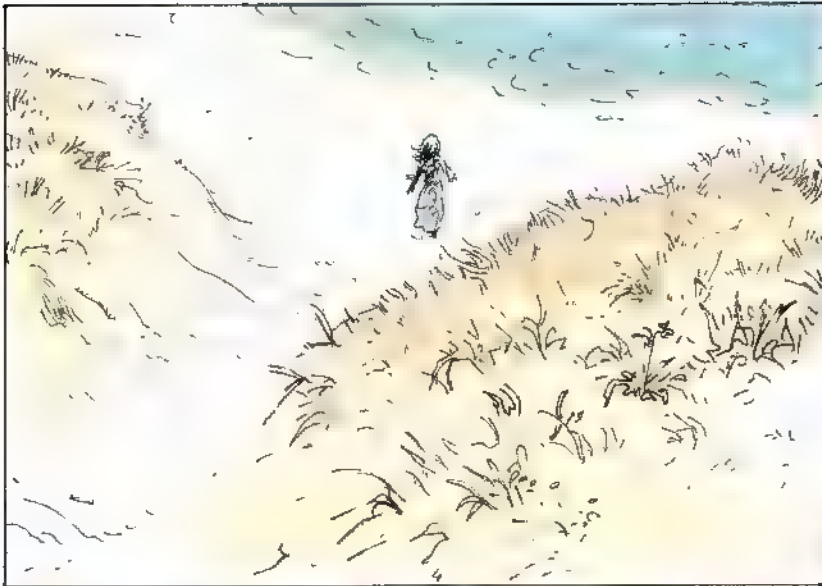
I'M COLD,
AND I'M
DYING OF
HUNGER

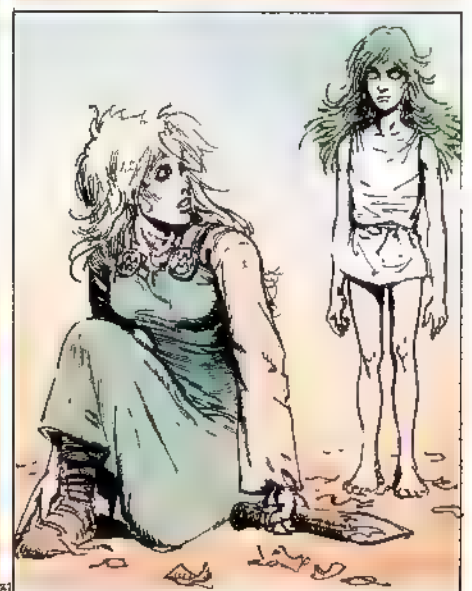
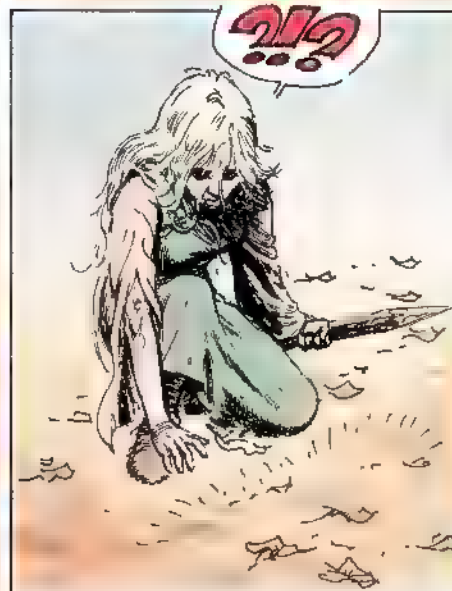
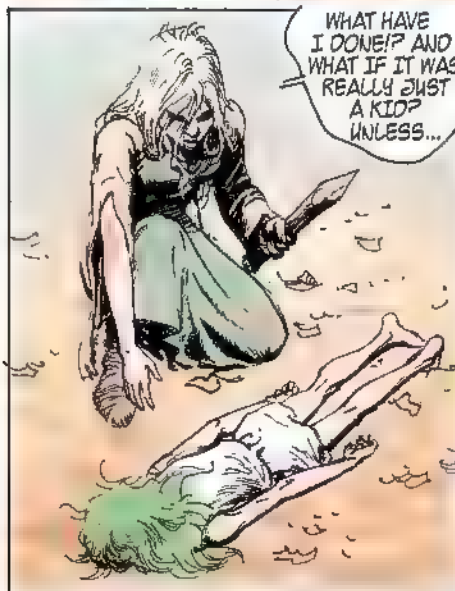
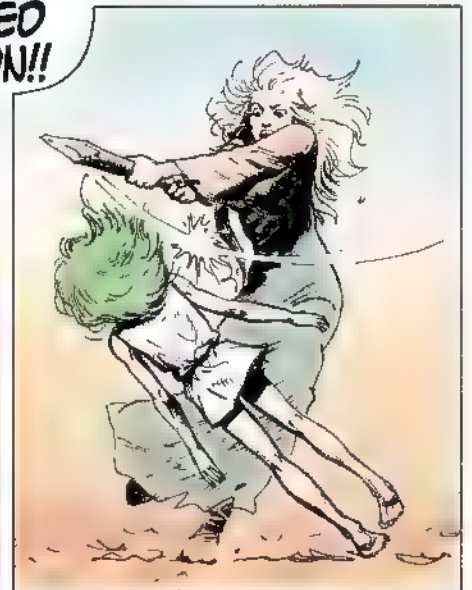
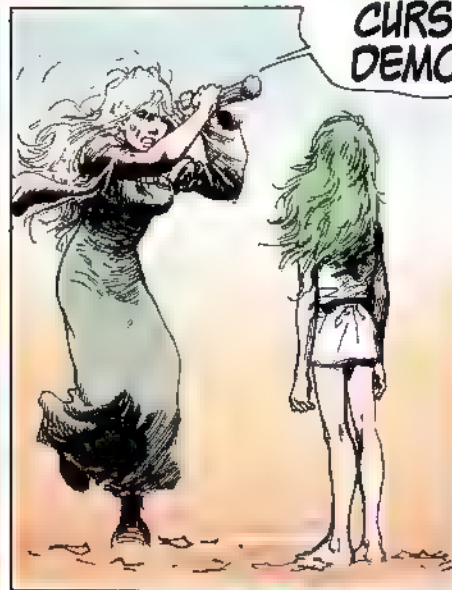
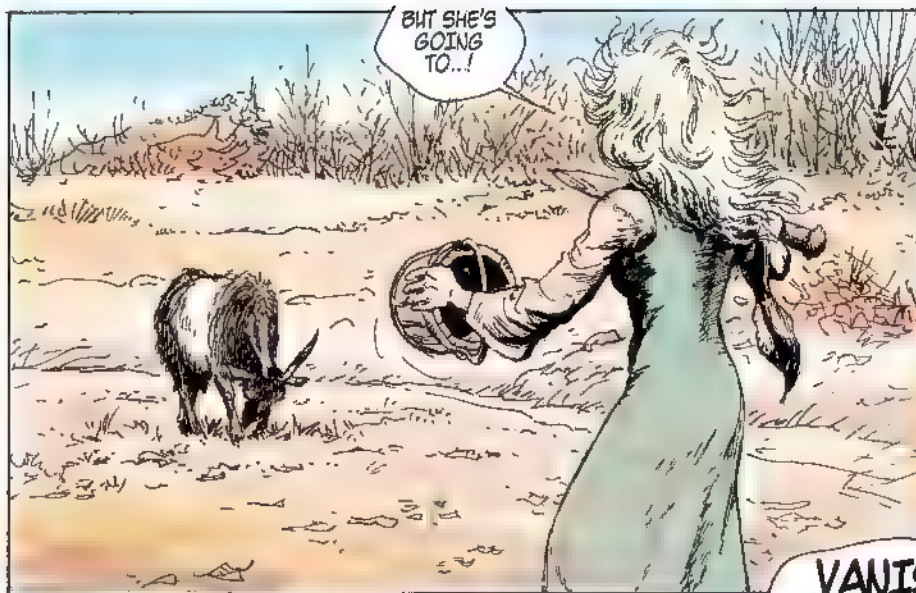


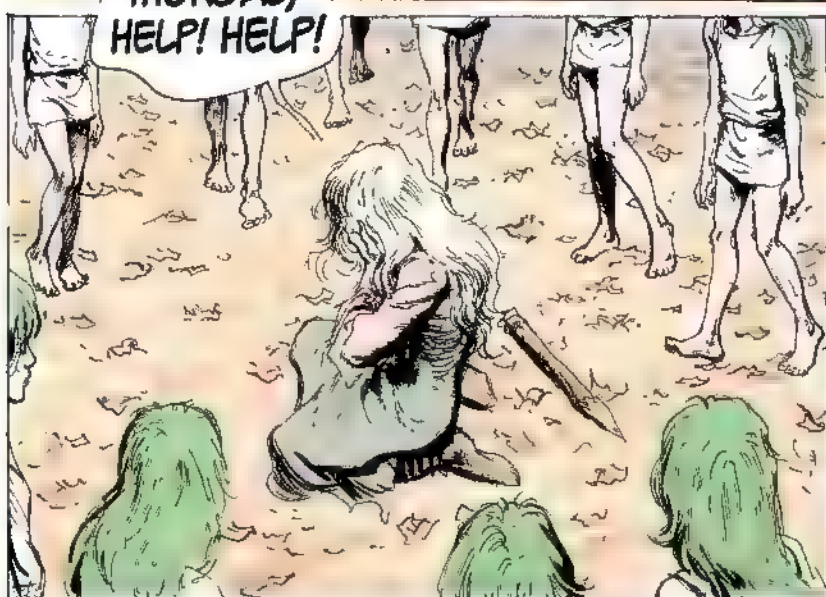
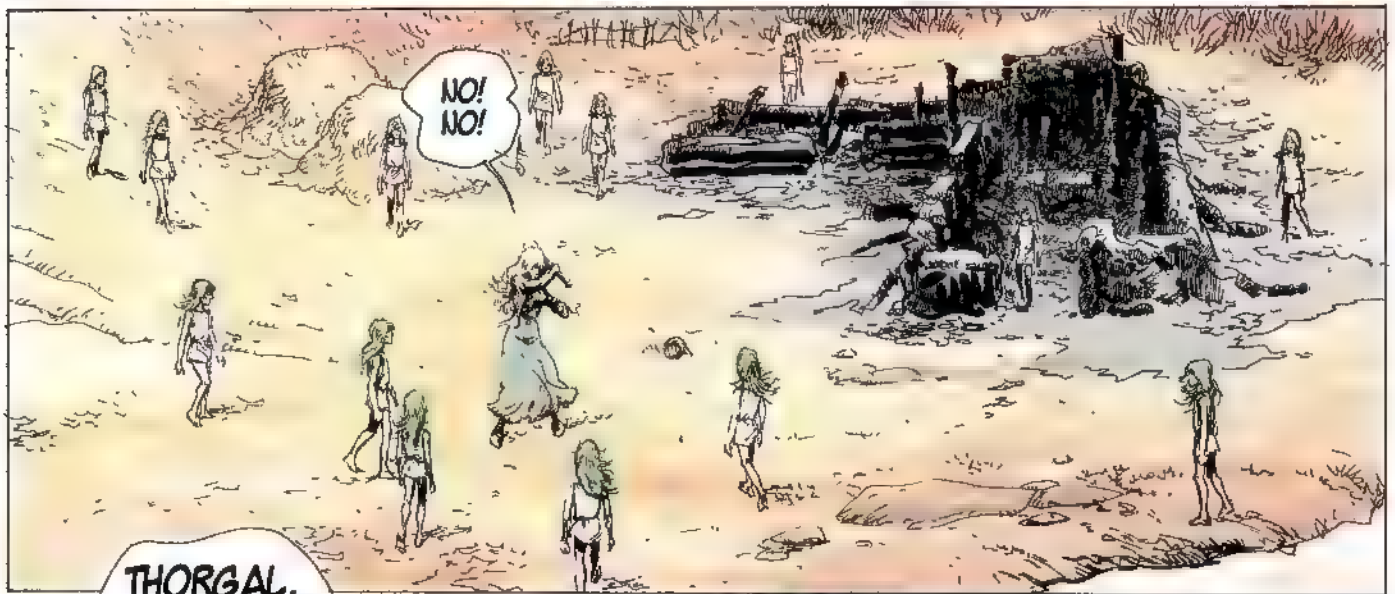
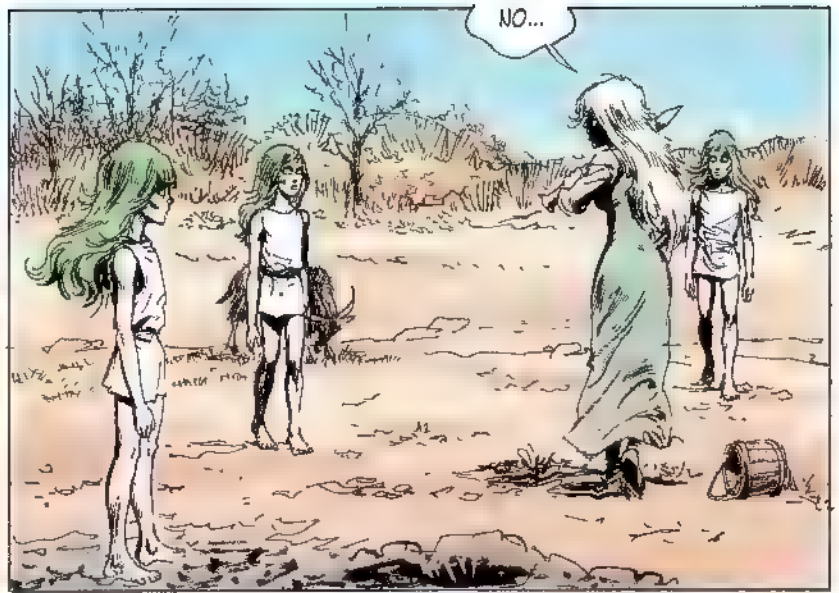
ME, TOO. DON'T
MOVE FROM HERE
JOLAN. I'LL TRY TO
FIND THE GOAT AND
BRING US SOME
MILK.

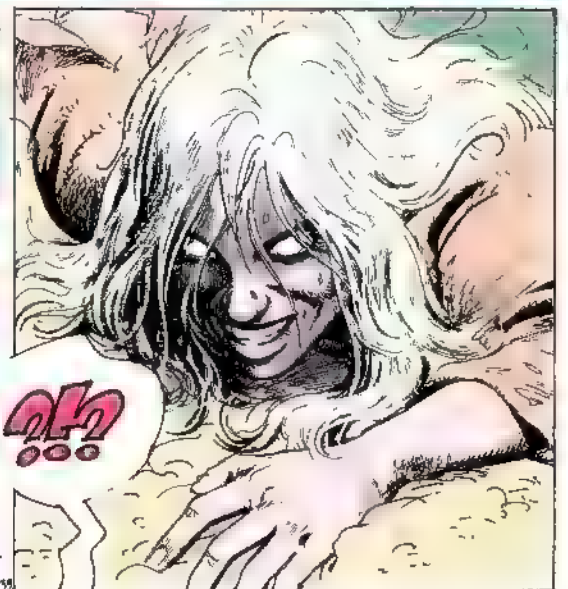
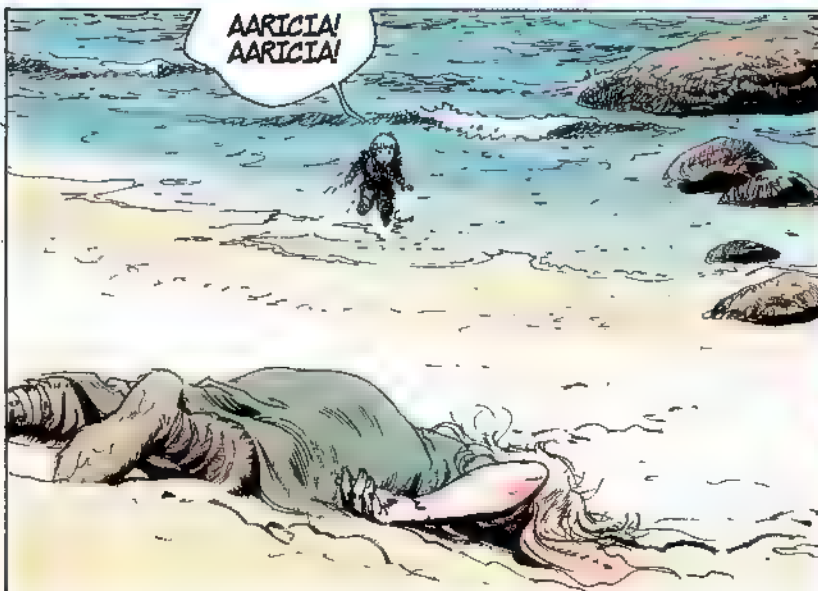
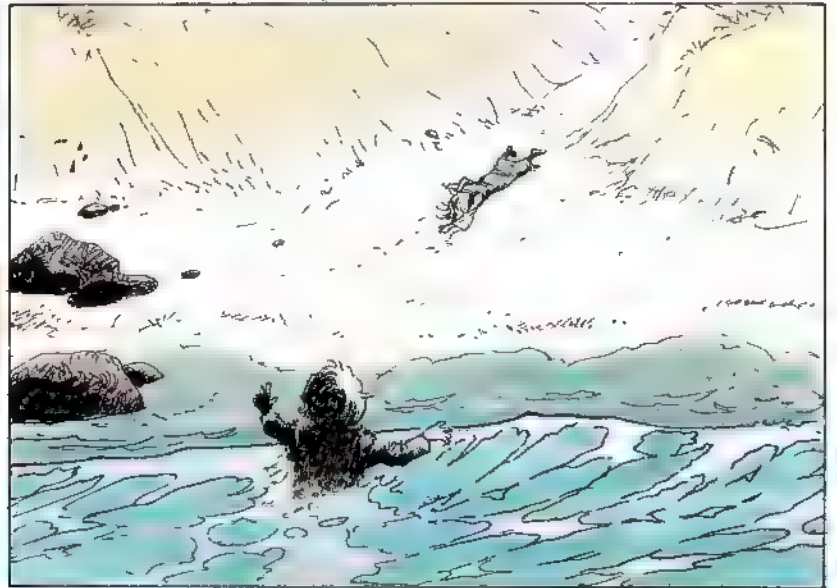
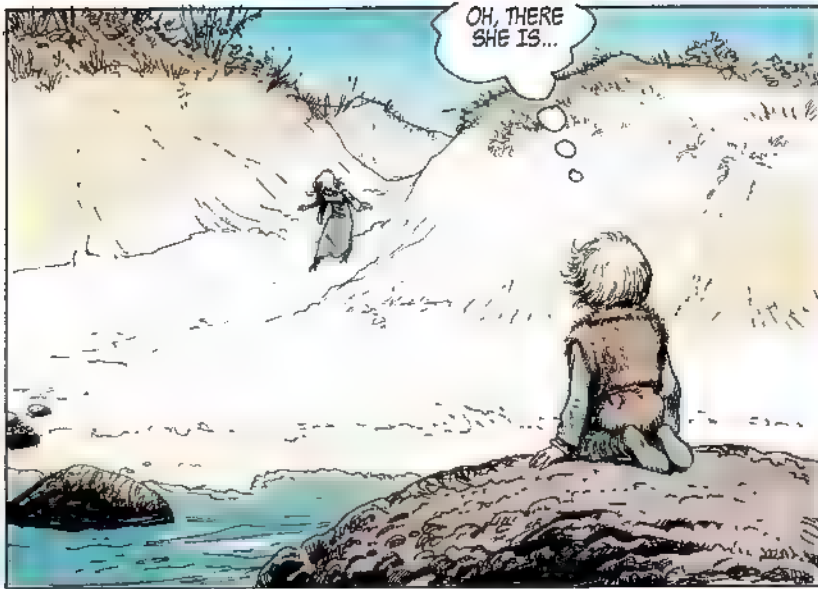
NO, AARICIA,
IT'S TOO
DANGEROUS.

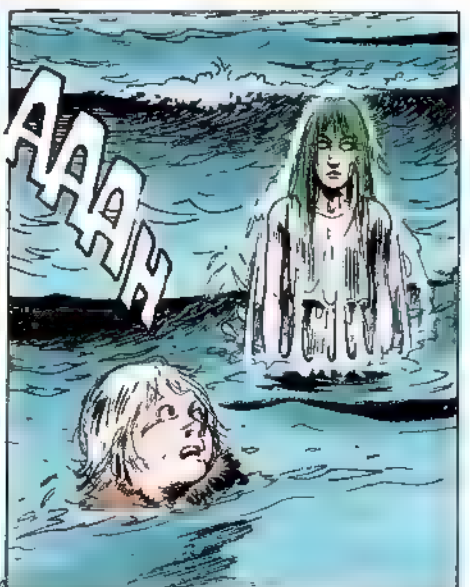
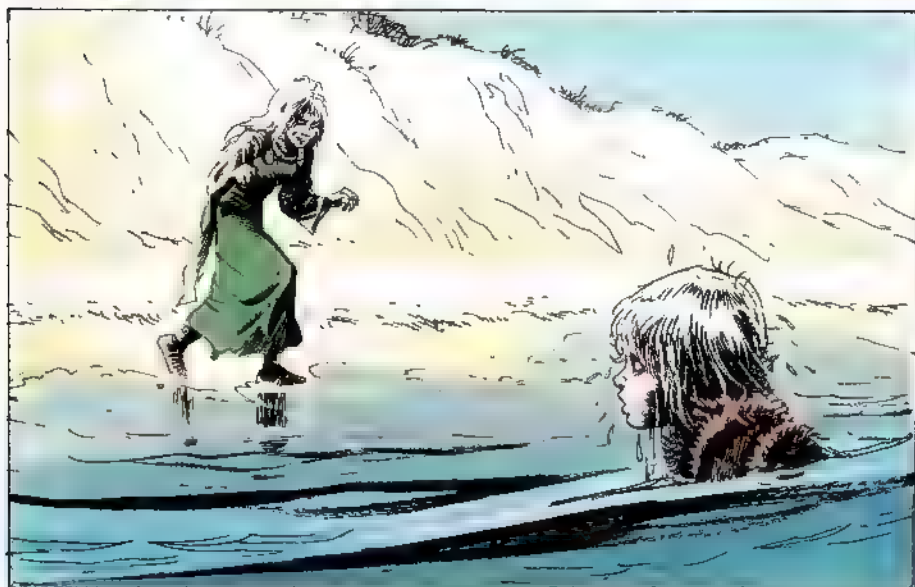
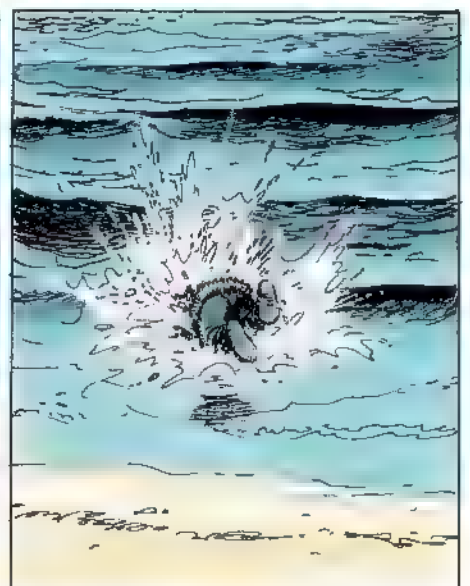
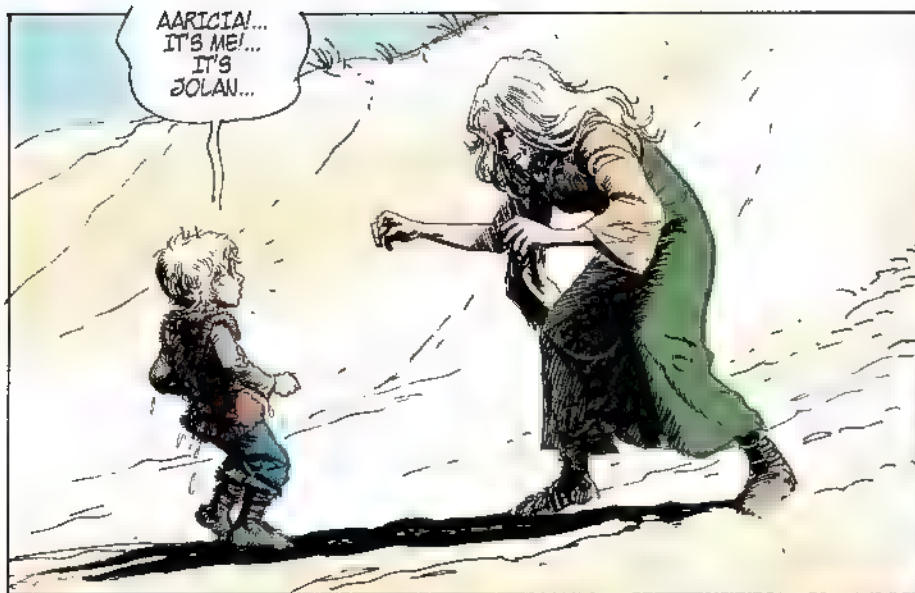




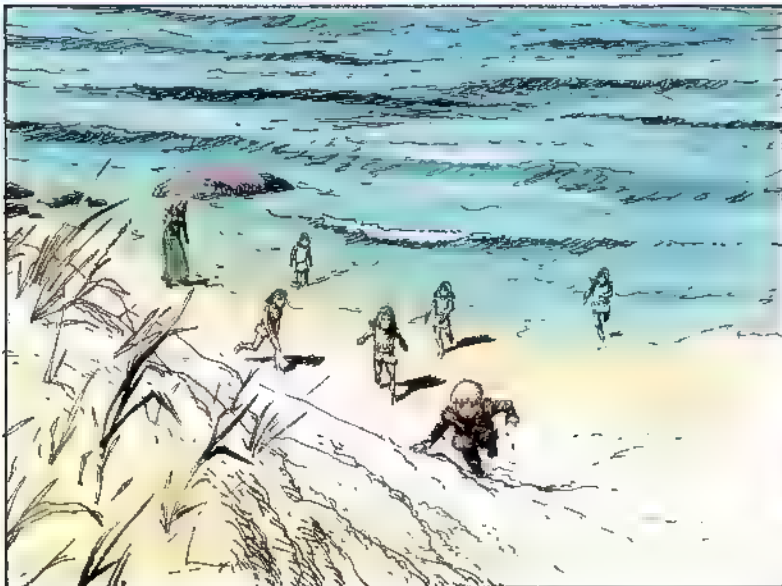
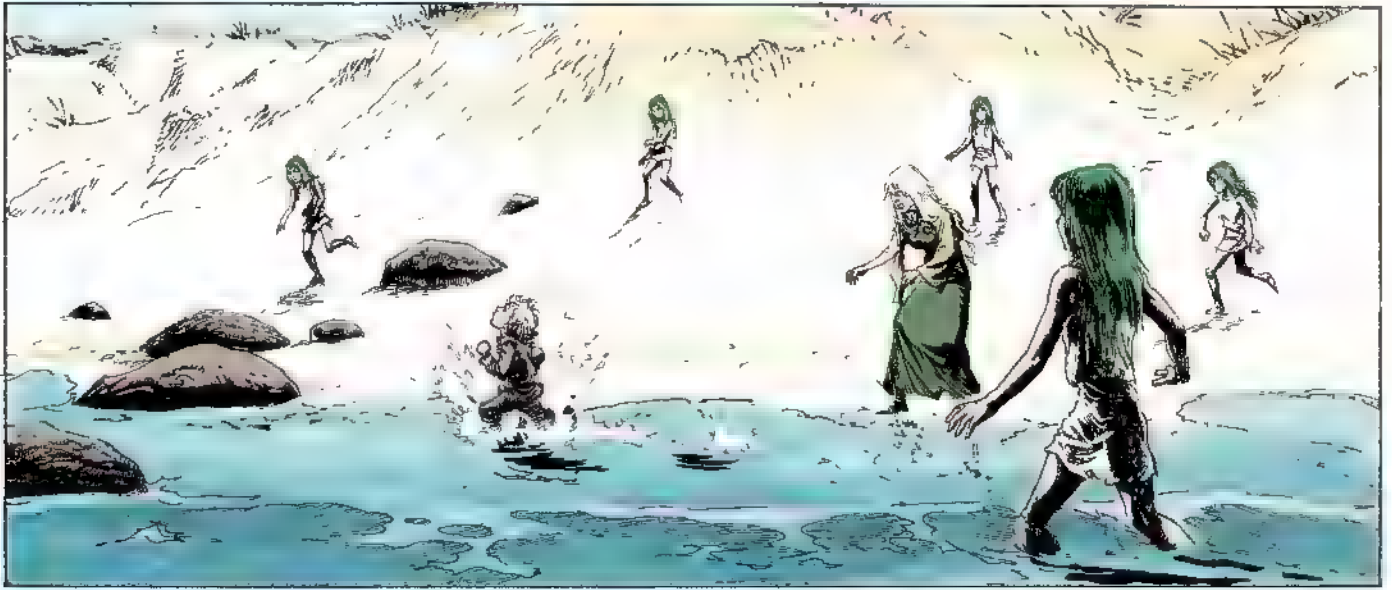
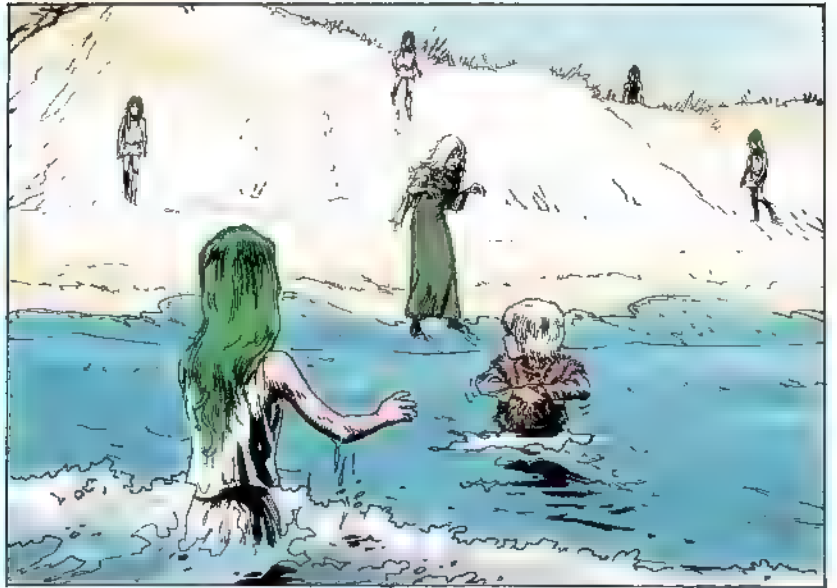
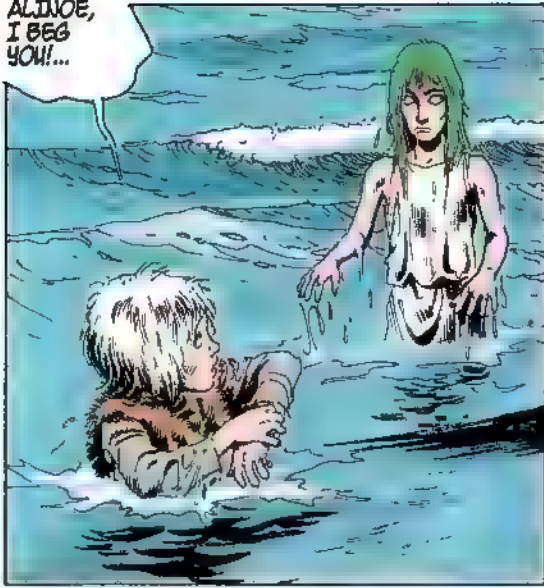


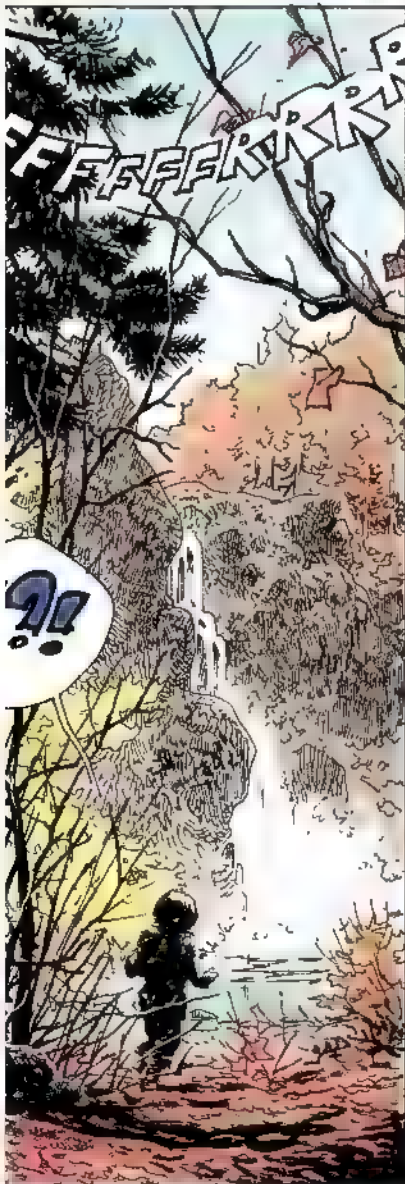


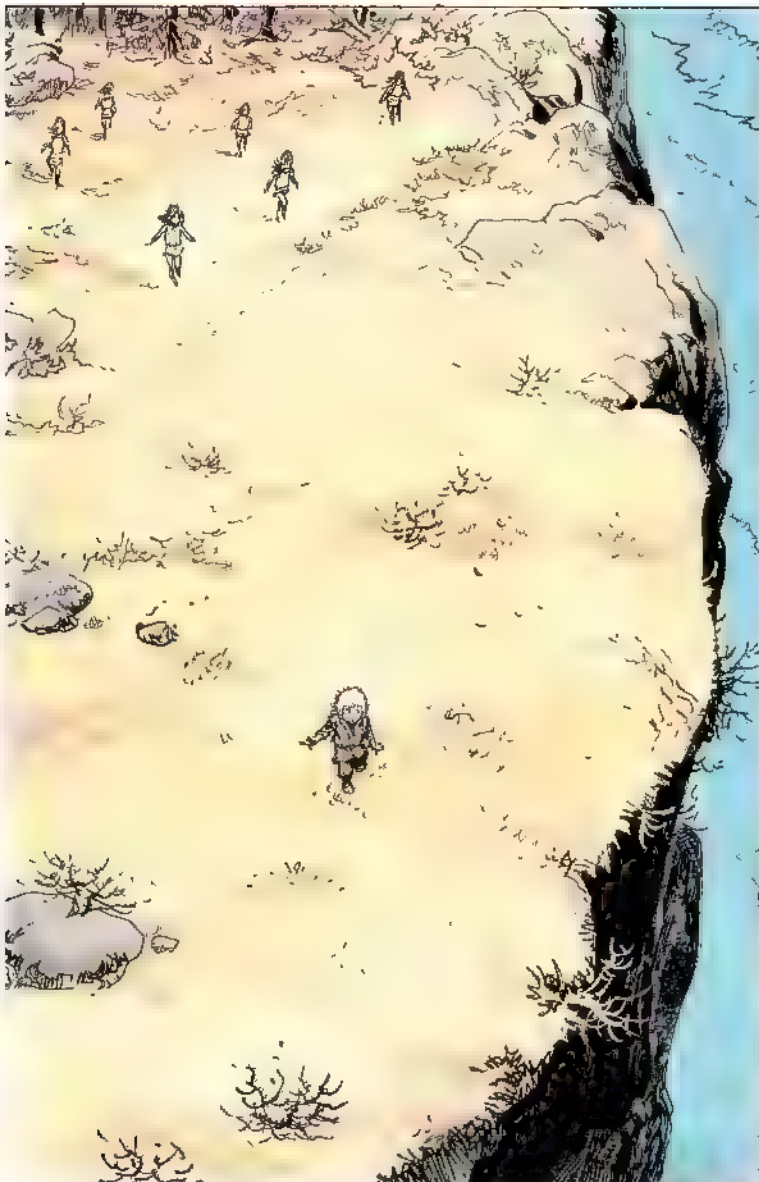
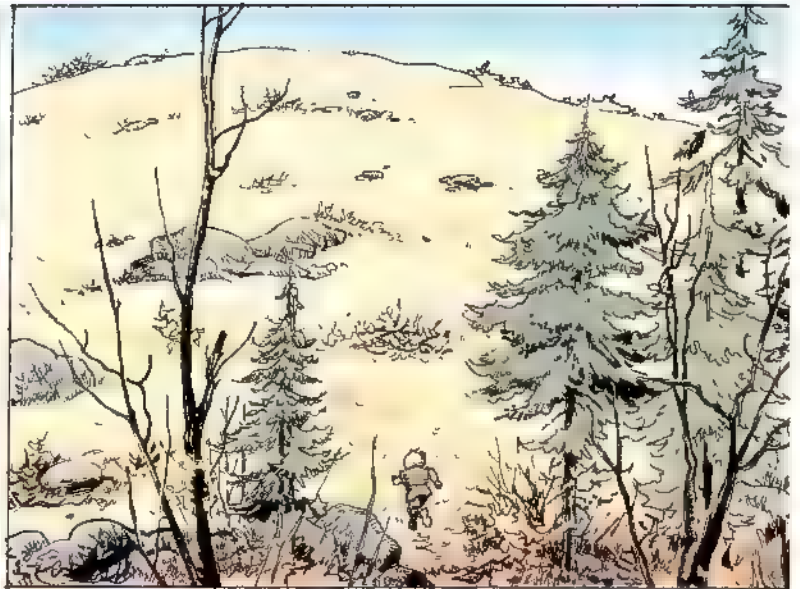
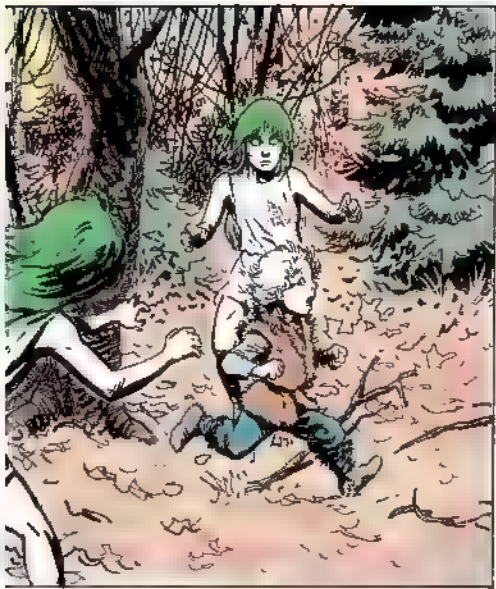


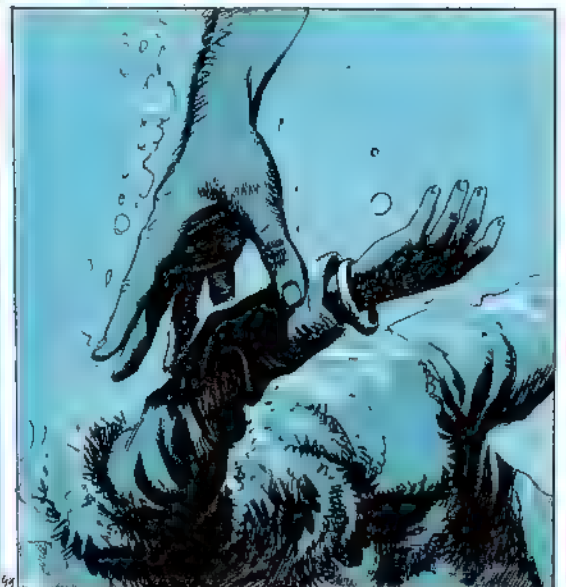
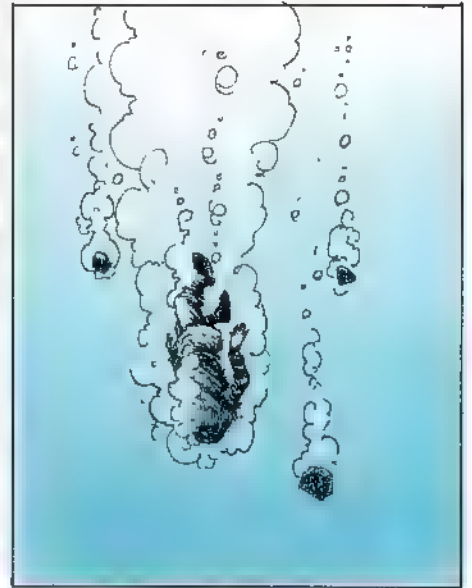
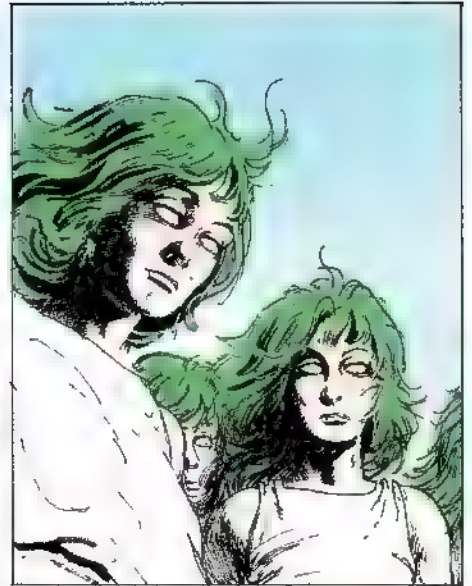


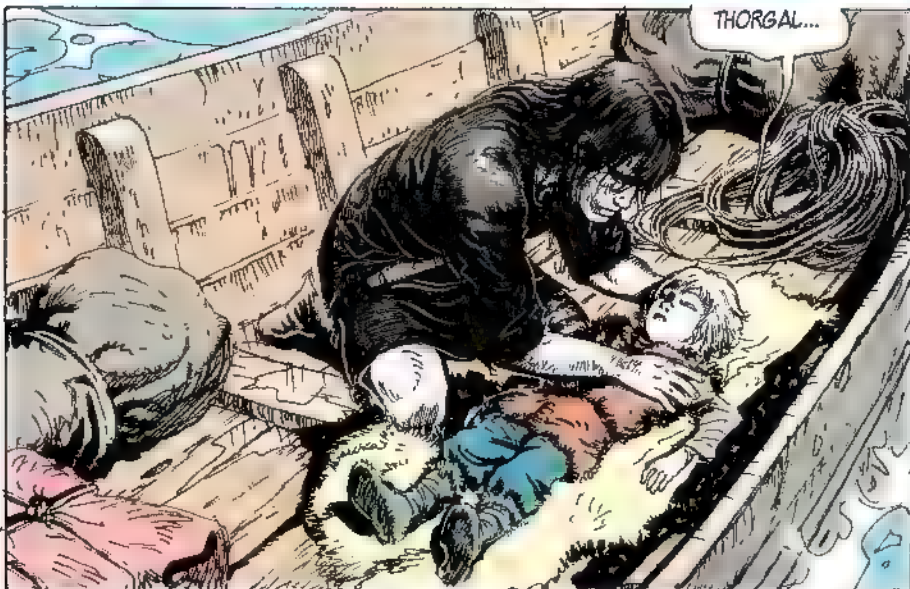
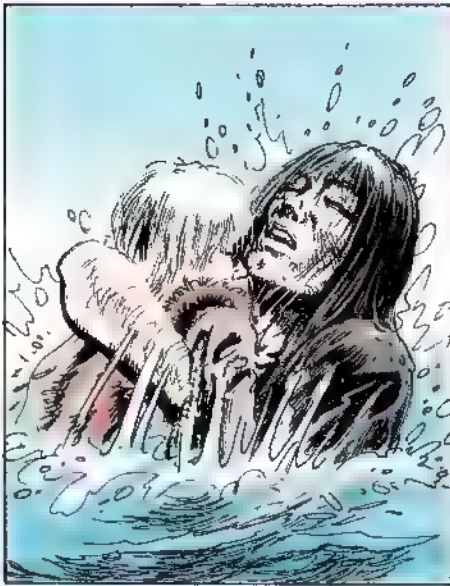
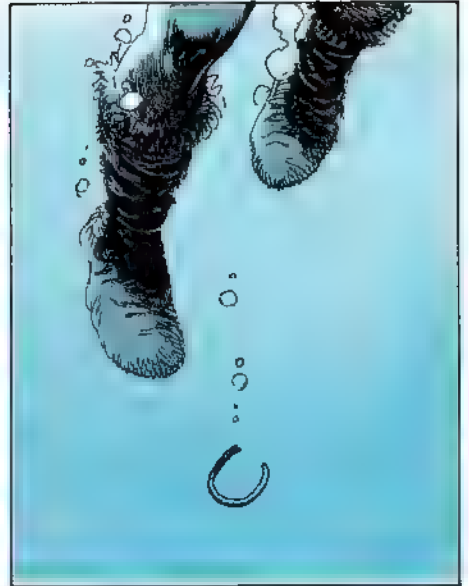
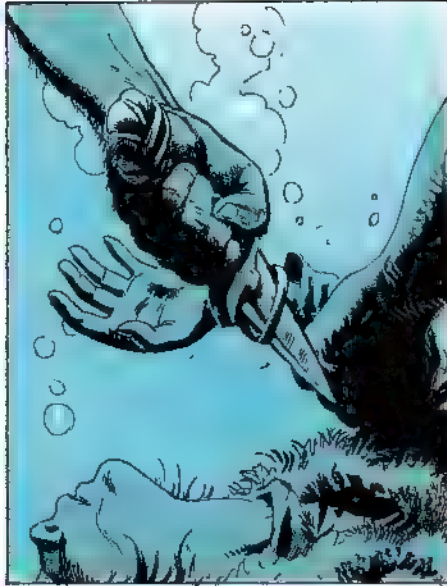
ALINOE,
I BEG
YOU!...











THORGAL...

OH, THORGAL,
YOU'RE FINALLY
HERE!... IF YOU
KNEW WHAT HAS
HAPPENED!

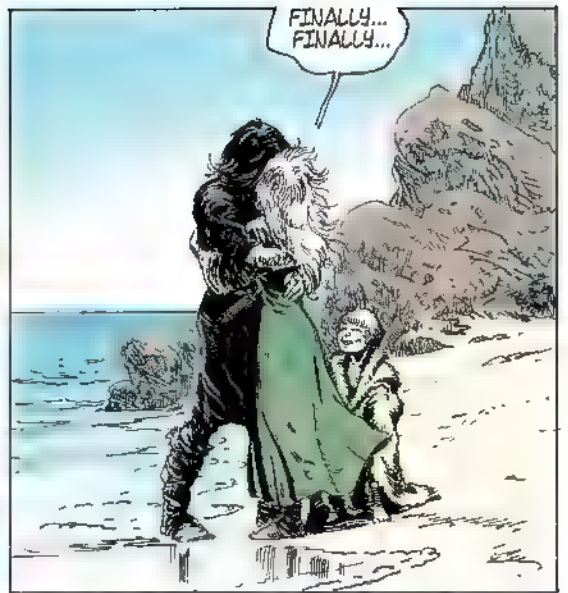
...

I KNOW, JOLAN,
I HEARD YOUR
FEAR CALLING
ME.





AARICIA!
IT'S OVER!
THEY'VE
GONE!



FINALLY...
FINALLY...



JOLAN, MY
HONEY, WHAT A
NIGHTMARE!

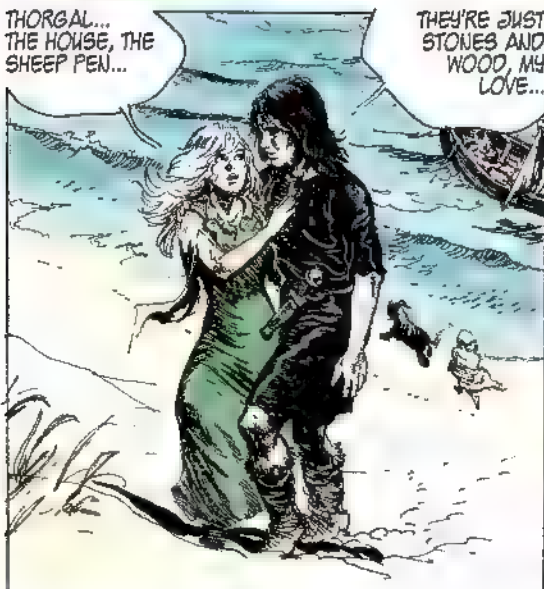
WOOF
WOOF



MUFF!



OH, MUFF, MUFF...
YOU'RE MY ONLY
REAL FRIEND,
YOU KNOW...



THORGAL...
THE HOUSE, THE
SHEEP PEN...

THEY'RE JUST
STONES AND
WOOD, MY
LOVE...



WE'LL JUST
START ALL OVER!

THE END

ROOMMIL & VAN HAMME

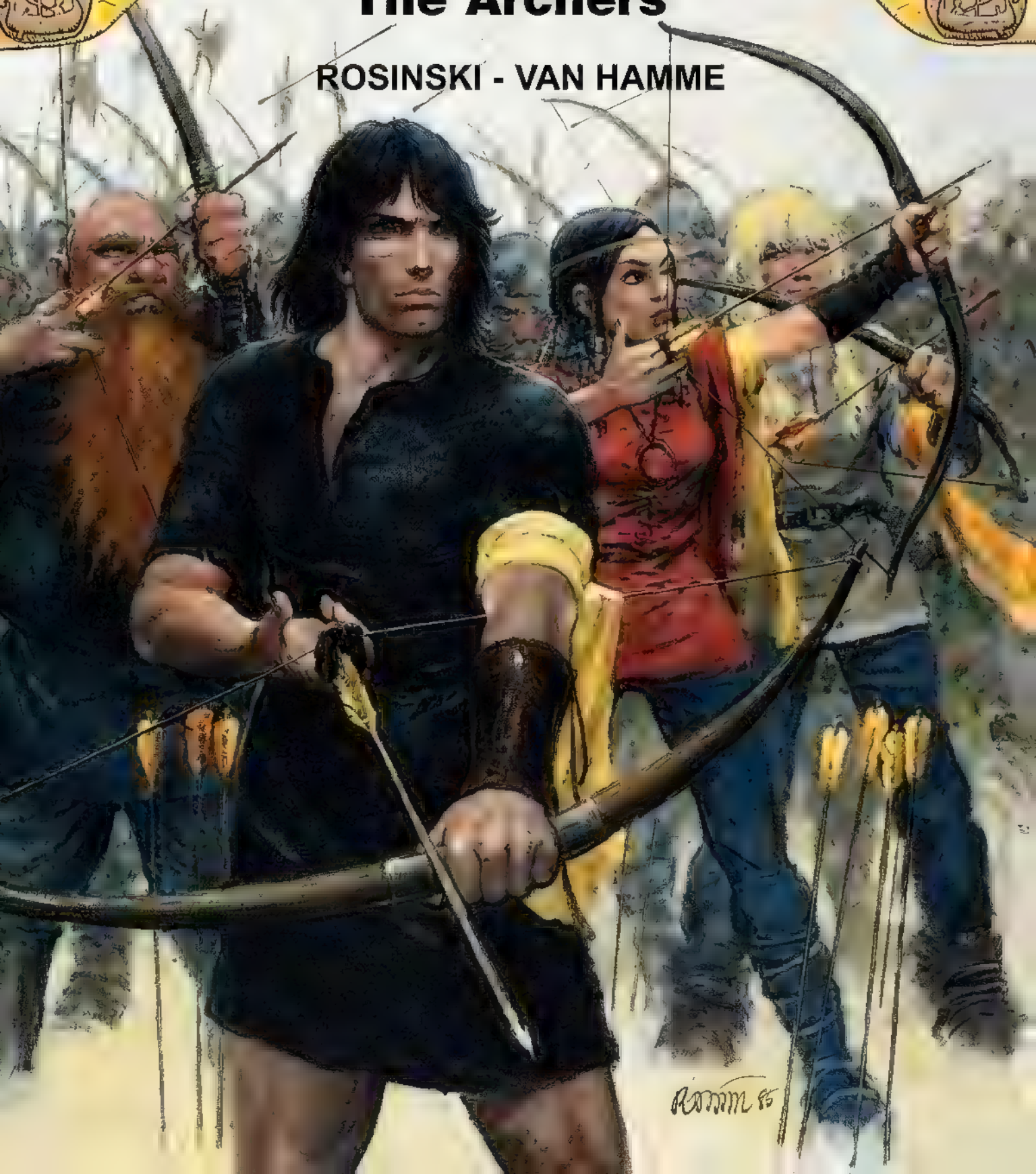


THORNGAL



The Archers

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME



Room 85

ROSINSKI-VAN HAMME

THORCAL

The Archers







ALERT!

FOREIGNERS
HAVE
PENETRATED
THE SACRED
TOWER OF
KERRIDWEN!

THEY'VE
STOLEN
THE BLOOD-
STONE!

**KILL
THEM!**

**KILL
THEM!**



HURRY UP. I'VE
ONLY GOT FOUR
ARROWS LEFT!...



**STOP,
SACRILEGIOUS!**

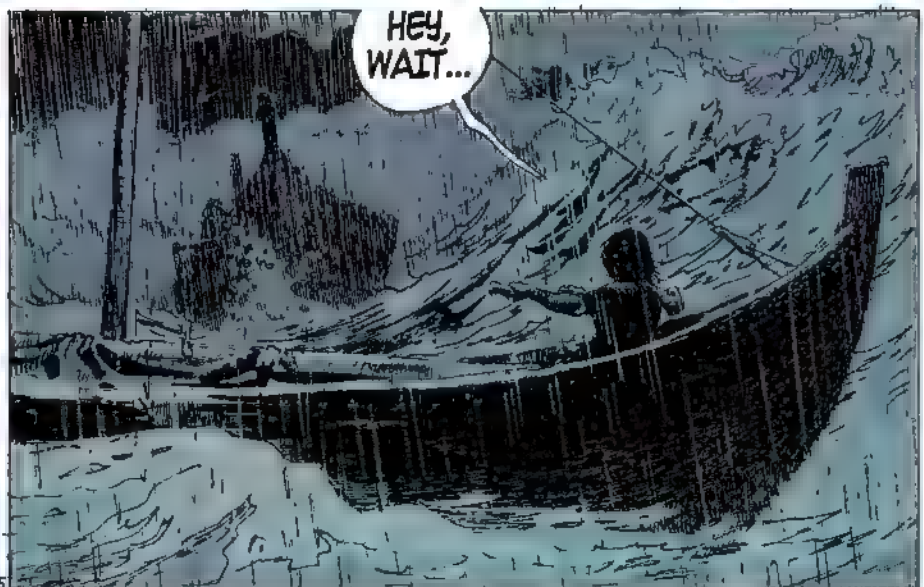
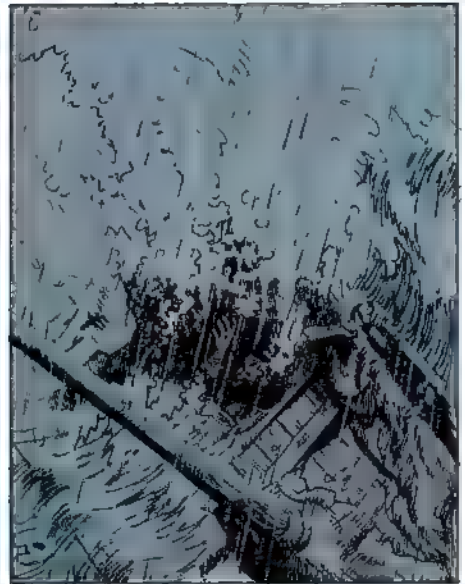
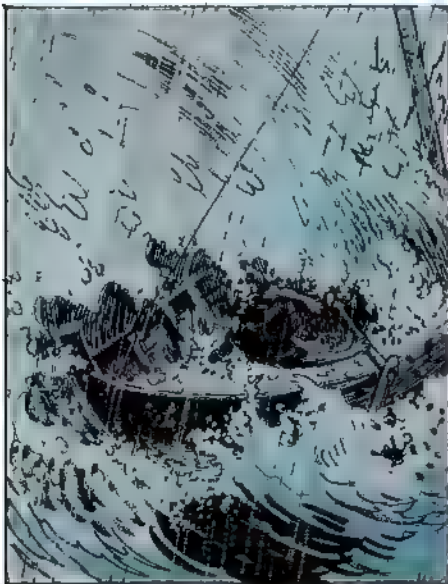
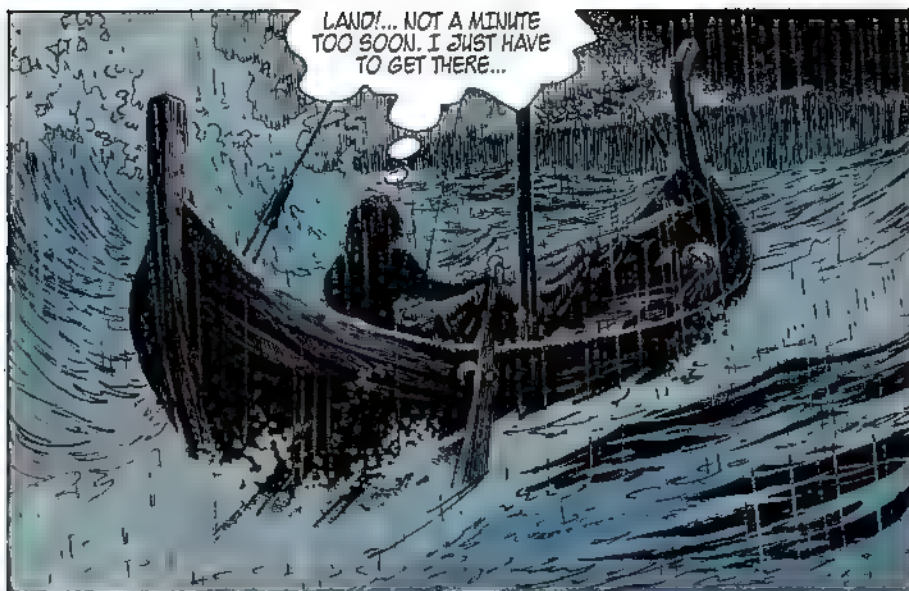
GIVE US BACK THE
BLOODSTONE! FEAR THE
CURSE OF THE GODDESS
KERRIDWEN!

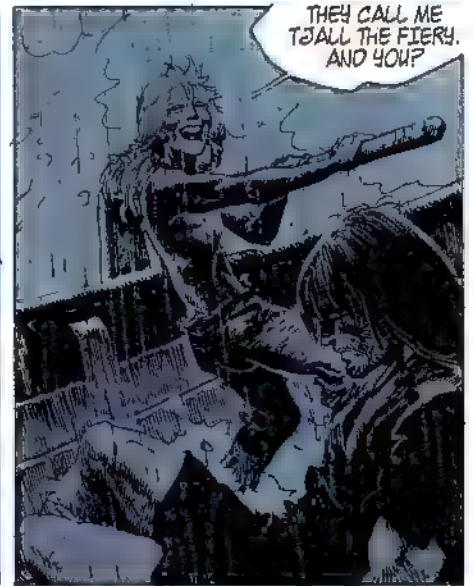
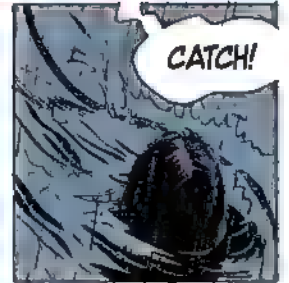
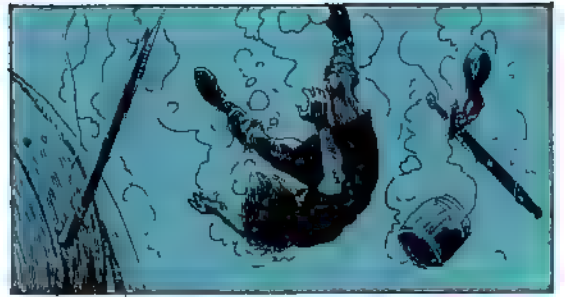
I'LL MAKE HIM SING
ANOTHER TIME, THAT OLD
WARBLER.

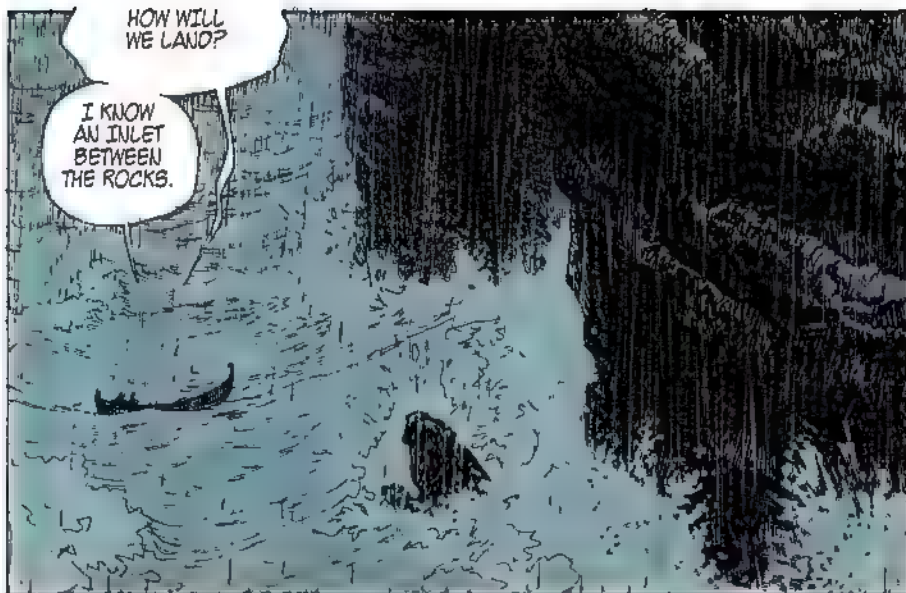
HE'S A PRIEST.
DON'T KILL HIM!...

HAHAHA!
WHAT A FINE EXIT!
YOU'RE DEFINITELY
THE BEST ARCHER
I KNOW.

I KNOW.
BOW IN HAND, THERE
ISN'T A MAN ALIVE
WHO CAN BEAT ME.

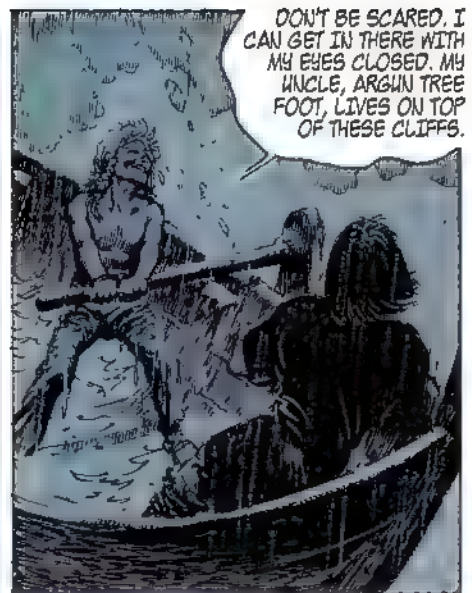




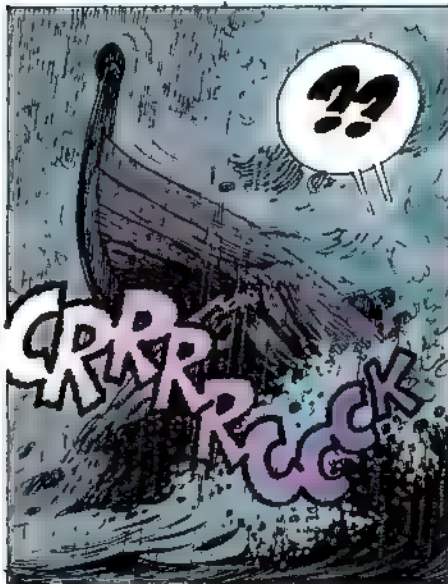


HOW WILL WE LAND?

I KNOW AN INLET BETWEEN THE ROCKS.

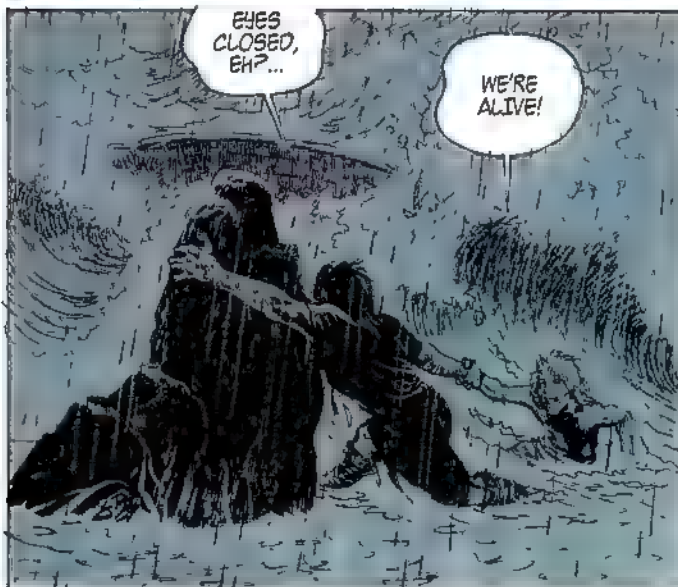
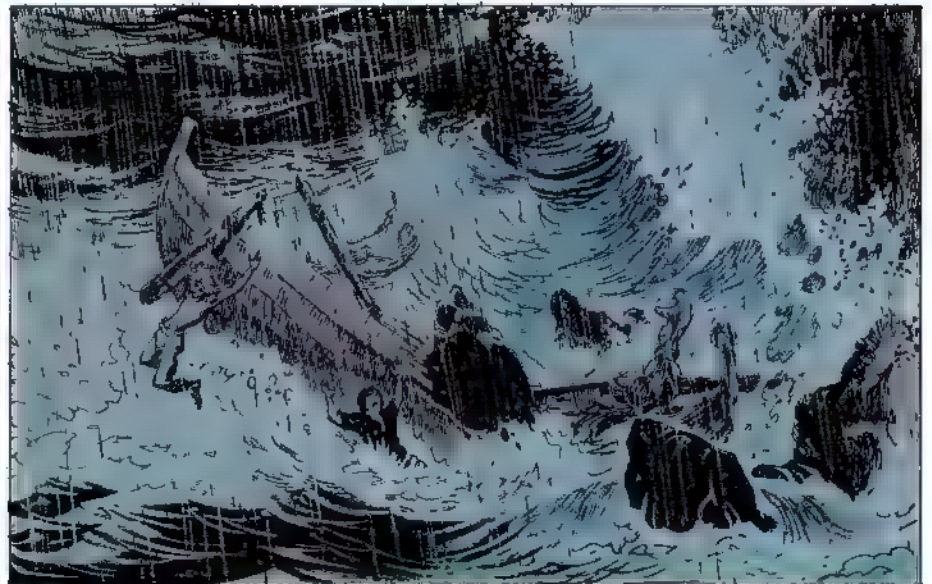


DON'T BE SCARED. I CAN GET IN THERE WITH MY EYES CLOSED. MY UNCLE, ARGUN TREE FOOT, LIVES ON TOP OF THESE CLIFFS.



??

CRRR
RUCK



EYES CLOSED, EHP...

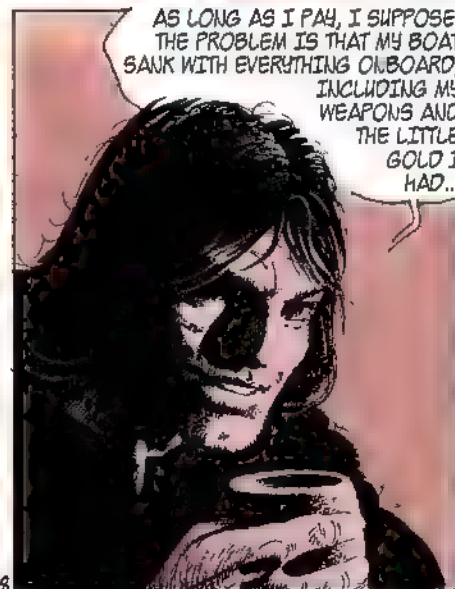
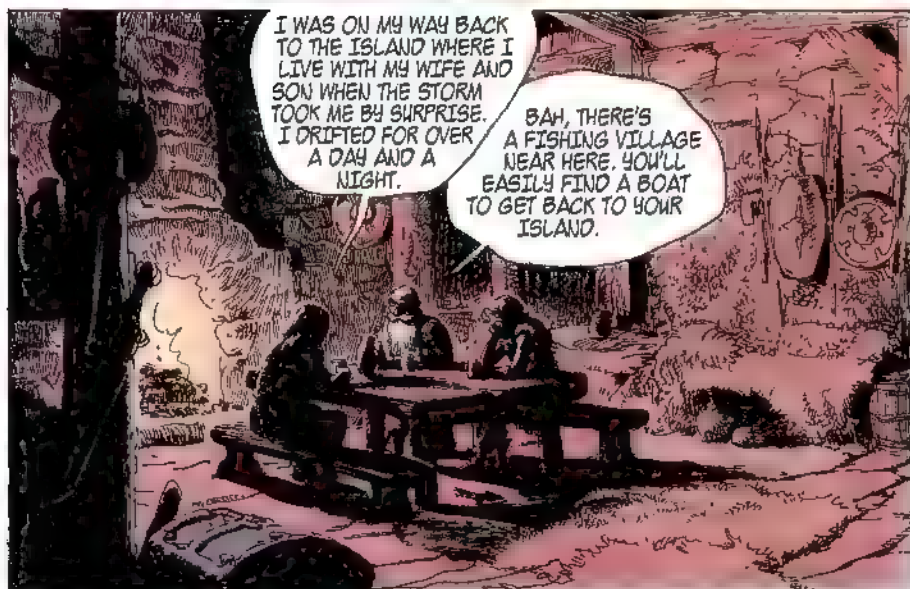
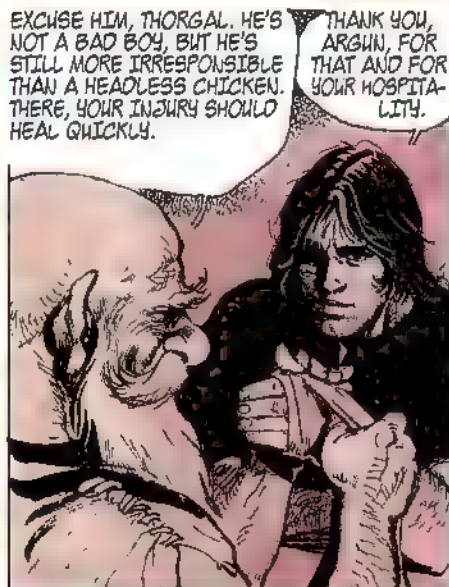
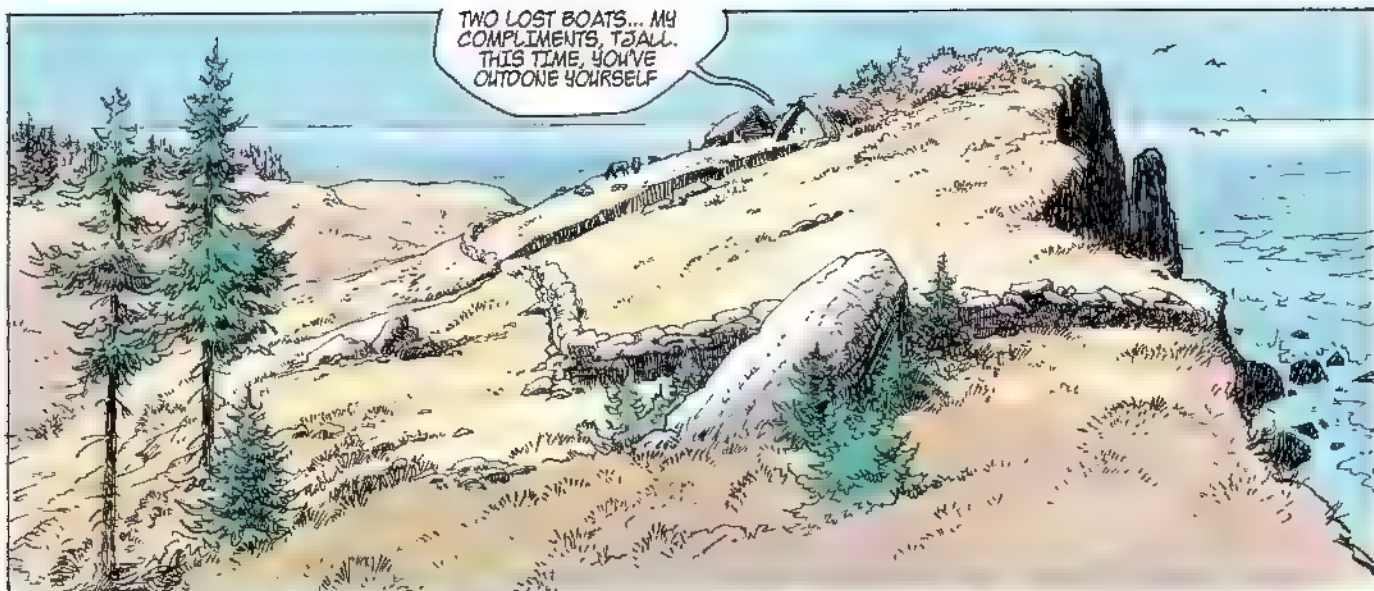
WE'RE ALIVE!



AND ON LAND. THAT'S WHAT COUNTS.

YEAH EXCEPT SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT WITH YOU, MY REAL PROBLEMS ARE JUST BEGINNING...

ROTHMILL & VAN HAMME





I CAN FIND YOU OTHER WEAPONS. BUT FOR THE REST... UNFORTUNATELY, WE'RE NOT RICH.

NO, BUT WE SOON WILL BE.

OH YES? HOW SO?

NEXT WEEK, TREE FOOT AND I WILL PARTICIPATE IN AN ARCHERY TOURNAMENT ORGANISED BY THE RICHEST LORD IN THE REGION, THE SIRE OF UMBRIA, THIRTY LEAGUES FROM HERE. IT LOOKS LIKE THE WINNING TEAM WILL GET A PRIZE OF A HUNDRED SILVER MARKS—ENOUGH TO OFFER YOU TEN BOATS, THORGAL.



MY SCATTERBRAIN OF A NEPHEW PERSUADED ME TO BE HIS PARTNER IN THE TOURNAMENT, IT'S TRUE. I'LL ADMIT THAT HE'S NOT SO BAD WITH A BOW, BUT HE FORGETS THAT THERE WILL BE BETTER ARCHERS IN THE COUNTRY.

YOU'VE TOLD ME AT LEAST 50 TIMES THAT IN YOUR YOUTH YOU WON ALL THE ARCHERY COMPETITIONS.

INDEED, TJALL, THAT WAS IN MY YOUTH. WELL... IF WE CAN'T POCKET THE HUNDRED SILVER MARKS, I COULD ALWAYS SELL MY MERCHANDISE TO OUR COMPETITION.

WHAT MERCHANDISE?

TJALL DIDN'T TELL YOU WHAT MY JOB WAS? FOLLOW ME. I'LL SHOW YOU.



NOBODY KNOWS WHICH VANISHED RACE CARVED OUT THESE CAVES, CENTURIES AGO. BUT IT'S BECAUSE OF THEM THAT I MOVED HERE.



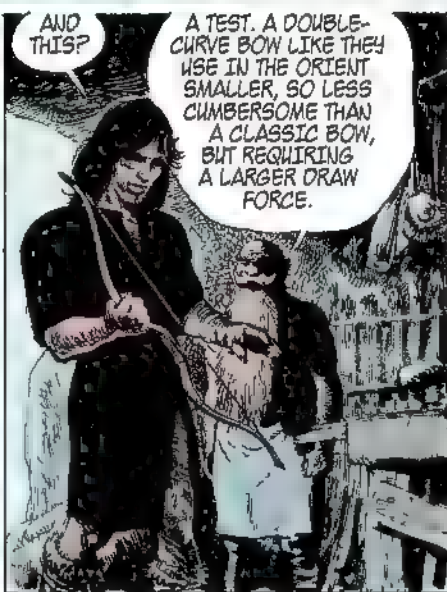
HERE WE ARE.



YOU'RE AN ARMOURER?

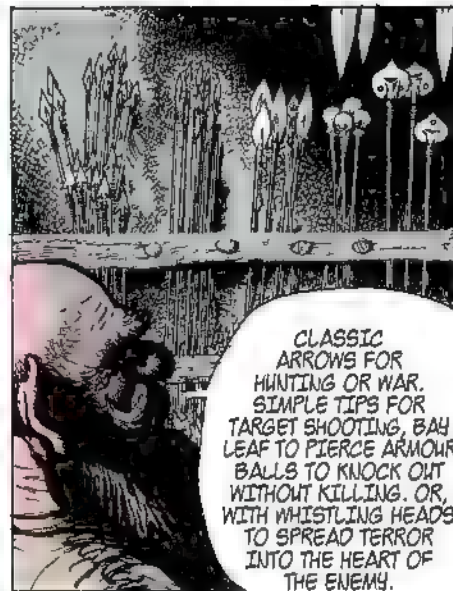
EXACTLY. SPECIALISED IN BOW AND ARROW MANUFACTURE. I MAKE THEM FOR ALL TASTES AND ALL USES.

SPLIT ARROWS TO CUT ROPES, OR CRESCENT SHAPES TO CUT LIMBS. BARBED ARROWS OR SNAKE TIPS TO CAUSE WOUNDS THAT WON'T HEAL. YOU SEE THAT IN THE ART OF CAUSING INJURY TO HIS FELLOW, MAN'S IMAGINATION KNOWS NO LIMITS.



AND THIS?

A TEST. A DOUBLE-CURVE BOW LIKE THEY USE IN THE ORIENT SMALLER, SO LESS CUMBERSOME THAN A CLASSIC BOW, BUT REQUIRING A LARGER DRAW FORCE.



CLASSIC ARROWS FOR HUNTING OR WAR. SIMPLE TIPS FOR TARGET SHOOTING, BAY LEAF TO PIERCE ARMOUR. BALLS TO KNOCK OUT WITHOUT KILLING. OR, WITH WHISTLING HEADS TO SPREAD TERROR INTO THE HEART OF THE ENEMY.



YOU SEEM TO KNOW A BIT. CAN YOU SHOOT A BOW?

A LITTLE. I'D LIKE TO TRY THIS ONE, BUT I HAVE TO WAIT FOR MY HAND TO HEAL.

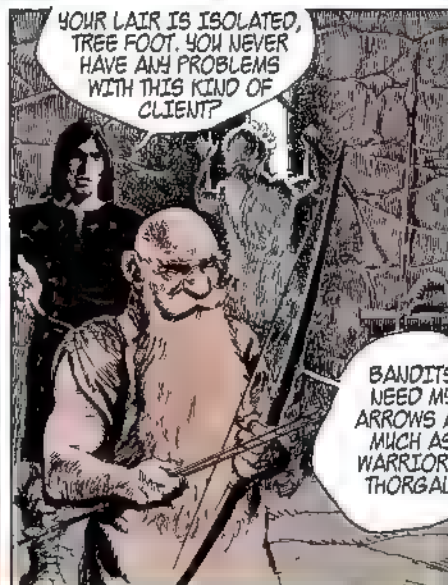
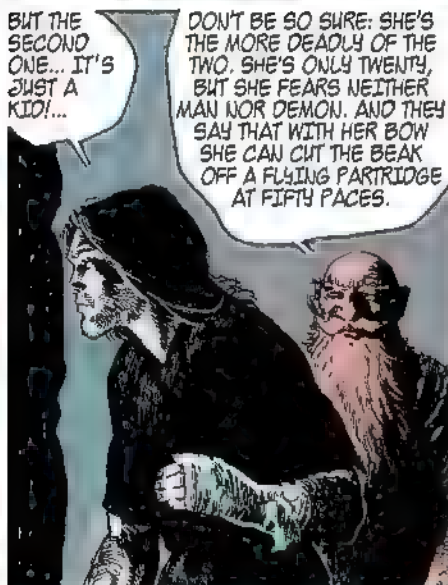


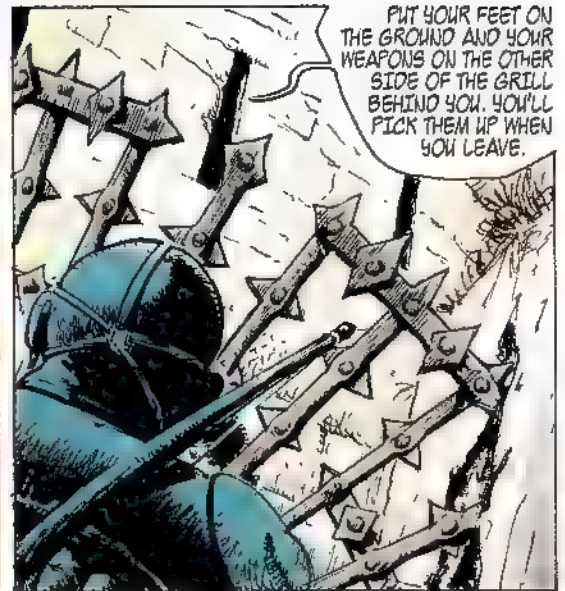
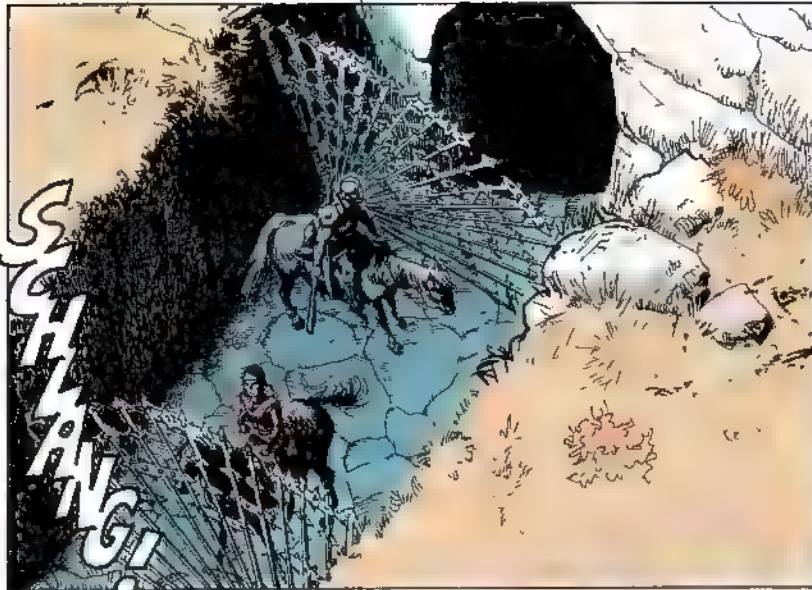
WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH US TO UMBRIA? WITH THIS TOURNAMENT, I WON'T BE SHORT OF CLIENTS AND I'LL NEED ALL THE HELP I CAN GET.

I WAS GOING TO OFFER, TREE FOOT.



SPEAKING OF CLIENTS, THERE ARE TWO COMING, AND THEY DON'T EXACTLY LOOK LIKE SIMPLE RABBIT HUNTERS.





PUT YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND AND YOUR WEAPONS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GRILL BEHIND YOU. YOU'LL PICK THEM UP WHEN YOU LEAVE.



STILL AS CAREFUL AS EVER, TREE FOOT?

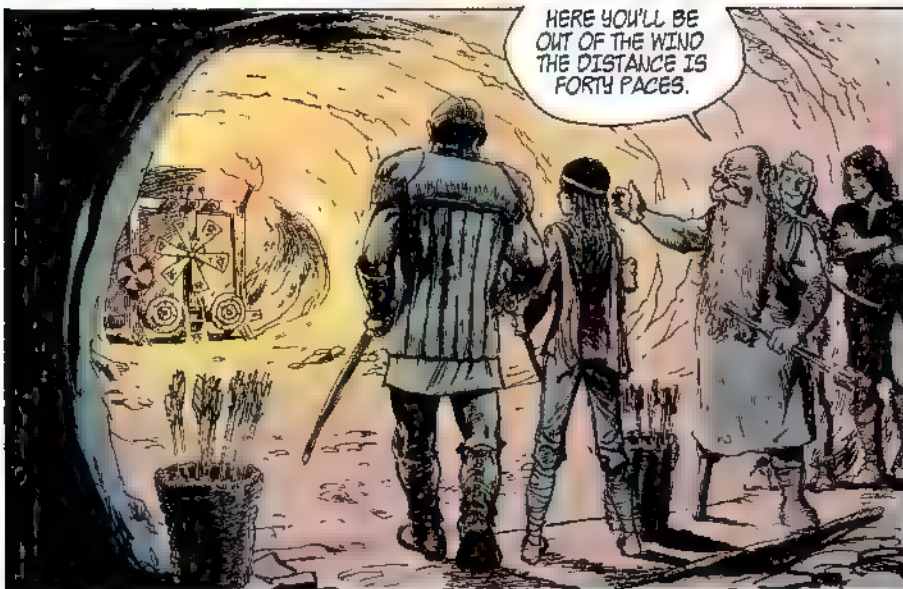
LOSING ONE LEG WAS ENOUGH FOR ME, SIGWALD. I'D LIKE TO KEEP THE REST INTACT.



I SUPPOSE THAT YOU'VE COME TO TAKE PART IN THE UMBRIA TOURNAMENT?

WE HAVE COME TO WIN THE TOURNAMENT, KID.

ENOUGH CHIT-CHAT. WHERE CAN WE TRY THESE ARROWS?

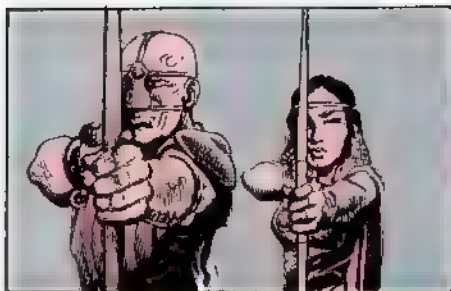


HERE YOU'LL BE OUT OF THE WIND THE DISTANCE IS FORTY PACES.

SAY, THAT GIRL IS SUPERB!

A WILD CAT'S BEAUTY, TALL. MIND HER CLAWS.





YOUR ARROWS
ARE PERFECTLY
BALANCED,
TREE FOOT.
AS USUAL.



YOU,
CRIPPLE IN
BLACK, GO
AND TURN
THE WHEEL.

WELL,
WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR?!

ON YOUR
ORDER,
PRINCESS.



SCHLAKK
SCHLAKK



SCHLAKK
SCHLAKK
SCHLAKK
SCHLAKK
SCHLAKK



NICE,
KRISS.

A GREAT
SHOT. AND
SO QUICK!

YEAH, NOT
BAO..



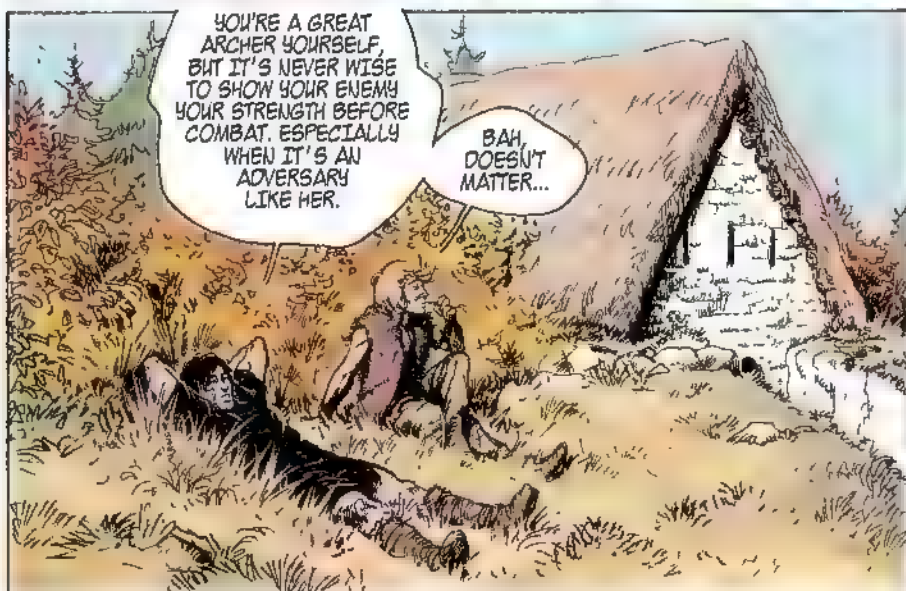
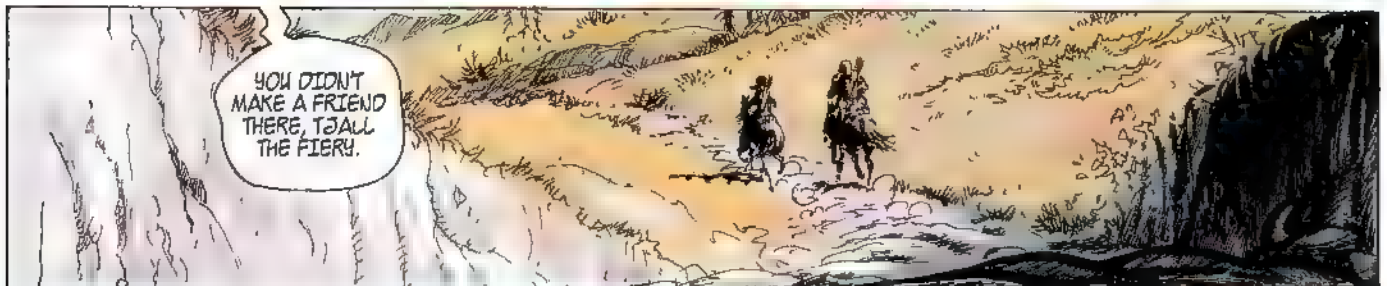
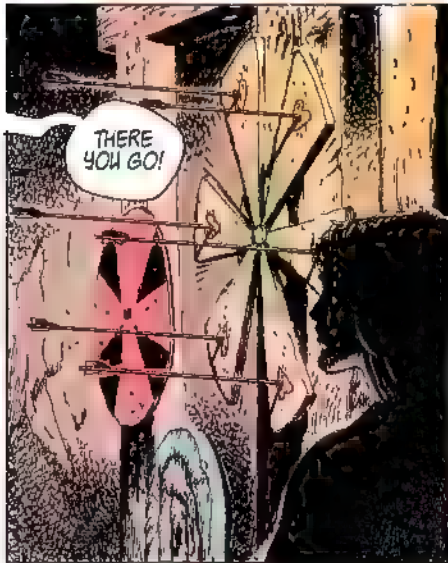
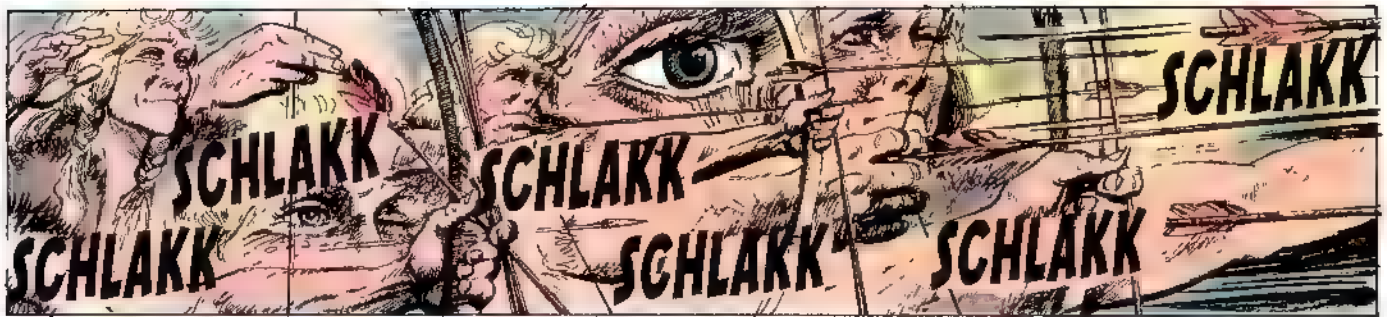
BUT THERE'S
ONE THAT'S
NOT QUITE
CENTERED.

YOU CAN
DO BETTER,
THEN?

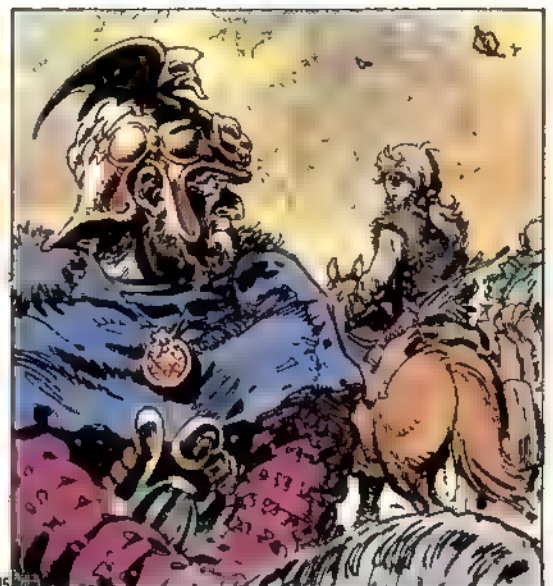
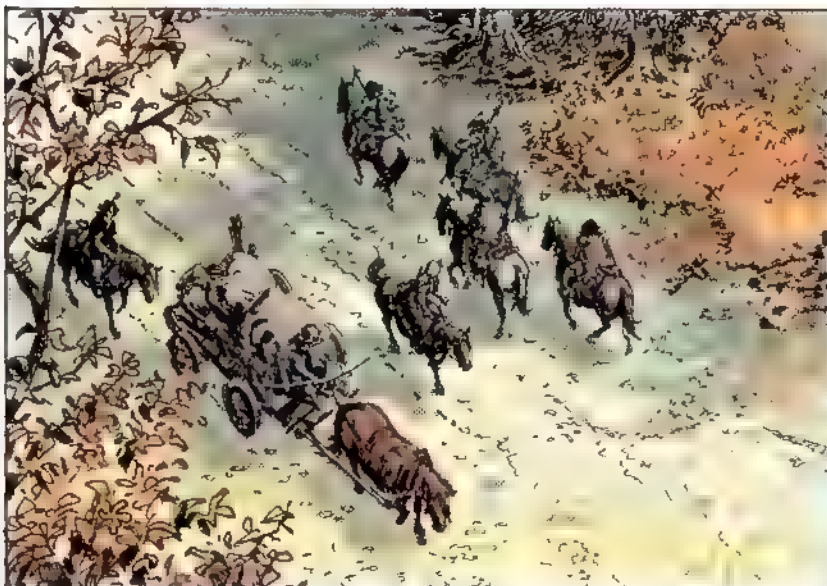
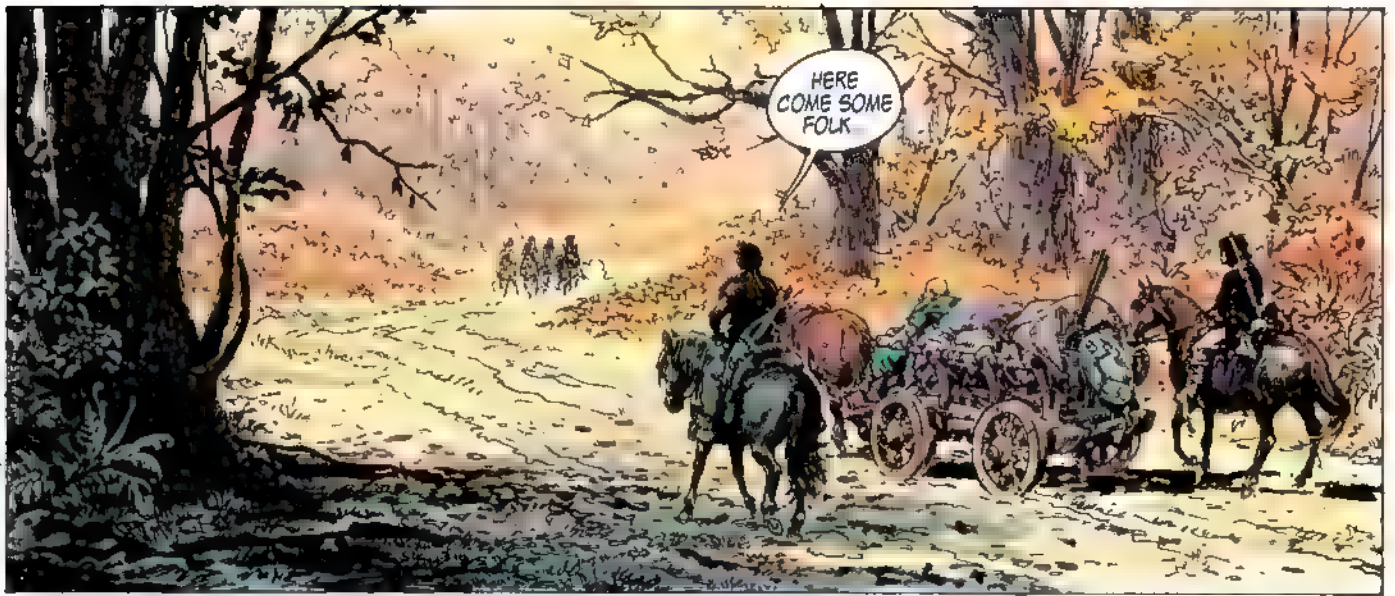


OF COURSE.
COULD YOU
PLEASE SPIN
IT AGAIN,
THORGAL?





ROBIN VAN HANKE





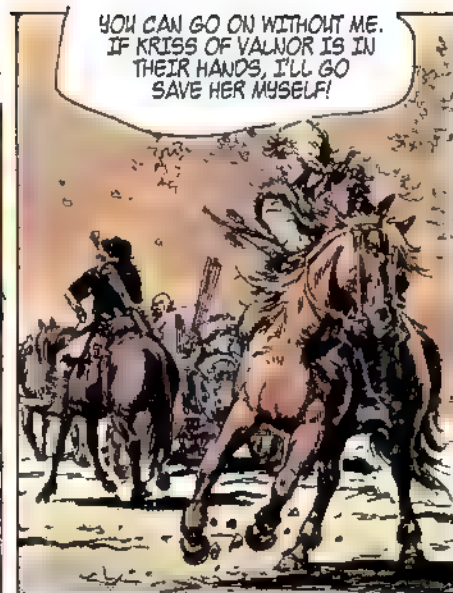
DID YOU SEE THAT? WE HAVE TO...

STOP!
YES, I SAW

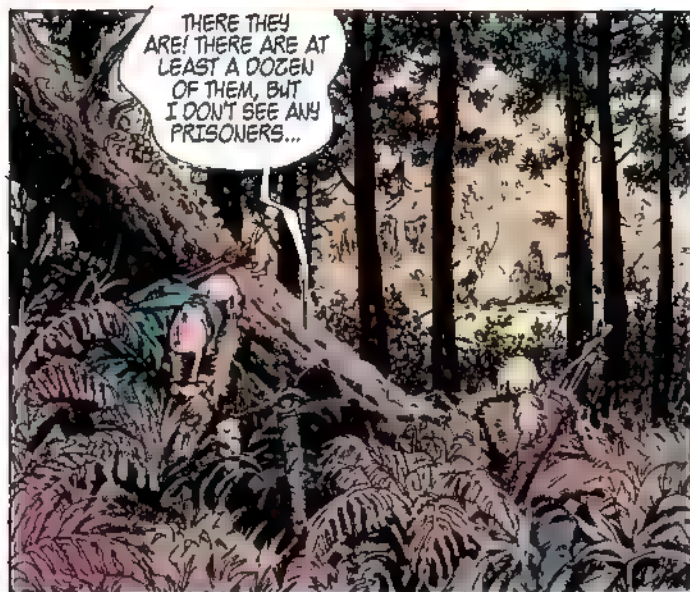
IF KRISS OF VALNOR AND SIGWALD THE BURNIT LET THEMSELVES GET TRAPPED BY THOSE MEN, IT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE IN A BIGGER GROUP. AND ANYWAY, IT'S NOT OUR BUSINESS, TJALL. LET THE WOLVES EAT EACH OTHER.



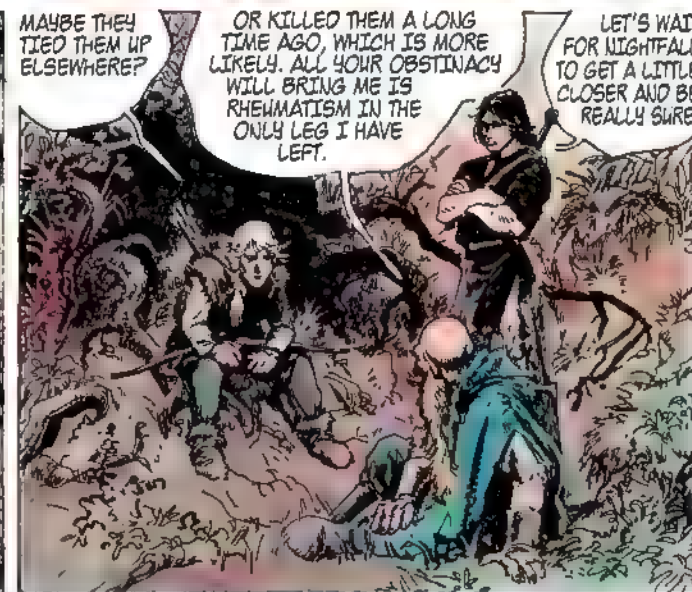
WOULD YOU BE A COWARD, THORGAL?



YOU CAN GO ON WITHOUT ME. IF KRISS OF VALNOR IS IN THEIR HANDS, I'LL GO SAVE HER MYSELF!



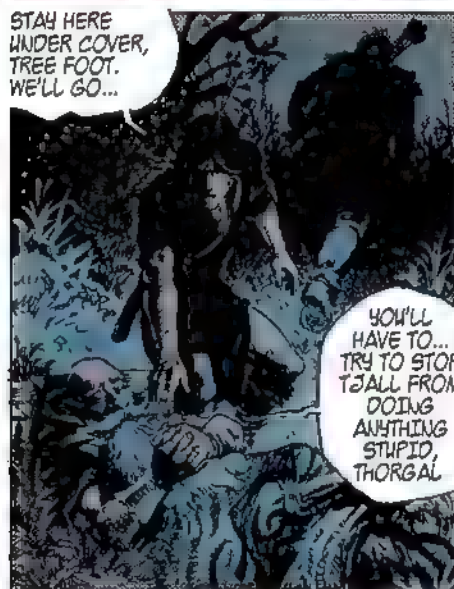
THERE THEY ARE! THERE ARE AT LEAST A DOZEN OF THEM, BUT I DON'T SEE ANY PRISONERS...



MAYBE THEY TIED THEM UP ELSEWHERE?

OR KILLED THEM A LONG TIME AGO, WHICH IS MORE LIKELY. ALL YOUR OBSTINACY WILL BRING ME IS RHEUMATISM IN THE ONLY LEG I HAVE LEFT.

LET'S WAIT FOR NIGHTFALL TO GET A LITTLE CLOSER AND BE REALLY SURE.



STAY HERE UNDER COVER, TREE FOOT. WE'LL GO...

YOU'LL HAVE TO... TRY TO STOP TJALL FROM DOING ANYTHING STUPID, THORGAL



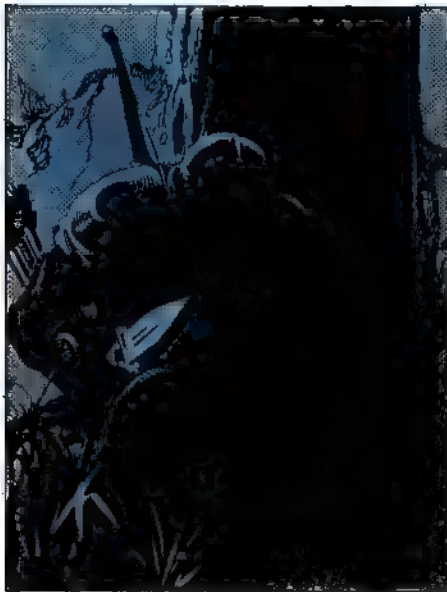
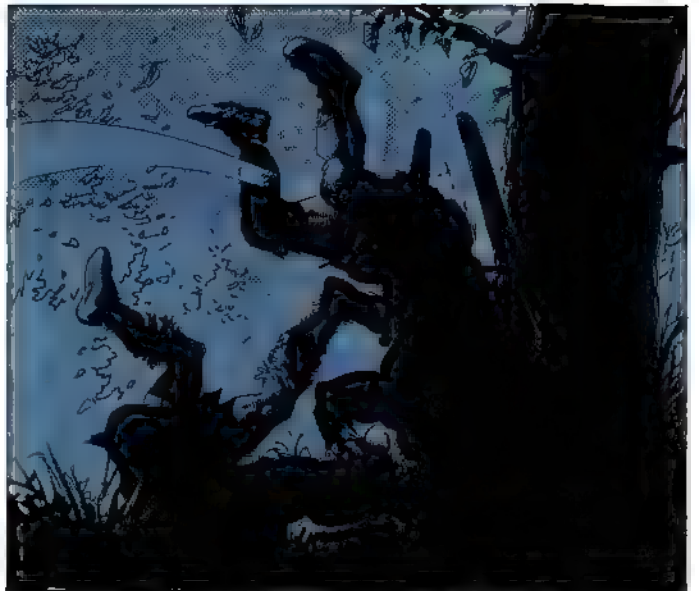
THOSE RAGGED FOOLS ARE PROBABLY TOO STUPID TO THINK ABOUT POSTING A DISTANT SENTRY!

SILENCE!



WHACK

HMPFF...



WE SPLIT UP TO HUNT. WHEN THAT SCUM ATTACKED KRISS, I WAS TOO FAR AWAY TO INTERVENE. I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE YESTERDAY, WAITING FOR A CHANCE...



SHE DIDN'T MAKE A SINGLE NOISE. BUT FOR WHAT THEY MADE HER SUFFER, I COULD SKIN THEM CLEAN WITH NOTHING BUT MY TEETH.



SORRY, SIGWALD, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO PUT THAT LOVELY PLAN ON HOLD FOR ANOTHER TIME. THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM. LET'S JUST TRY TO FREE YOUR FRIEND WHEN THEY'RE ASLEEP.







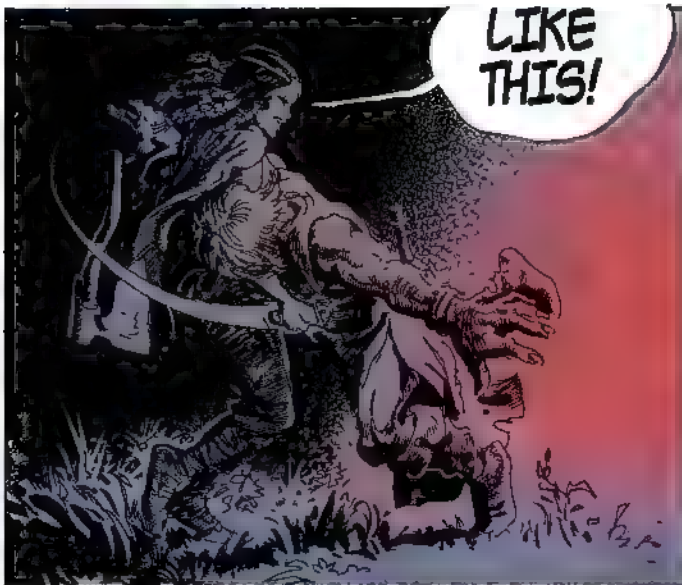
YOU
OKAY?
YES, BUT
THESE SWINE
WON'T GET AWAY
WITH THIS THAT
EASILY PASS
ME YOUR KNIFE.



HEY! HELP! I'M
BEING TAKEN!
HELP!



HAHA! NOW, FRIENDS,
IF YOU WANT TO LIVE, YOU'LL
HAVE TO KILL THEM ALL...



LIKE
THIS!







SIGWALD,
WAIT!



THIS ONE'S THE
WORST OF THEM.
HIS DEATH
MUSTN'T BE
TOO GENTLE.



BUT... YOU'RE
HURT!

NOTHING
SERIOUS.
THE PROBLEM,
THOUGH, IS THAT I
WON'T BE ABLE TO USE
A BOW FOR A WHILE.
THE TOURNAMENT IS
OVER FOR ME.

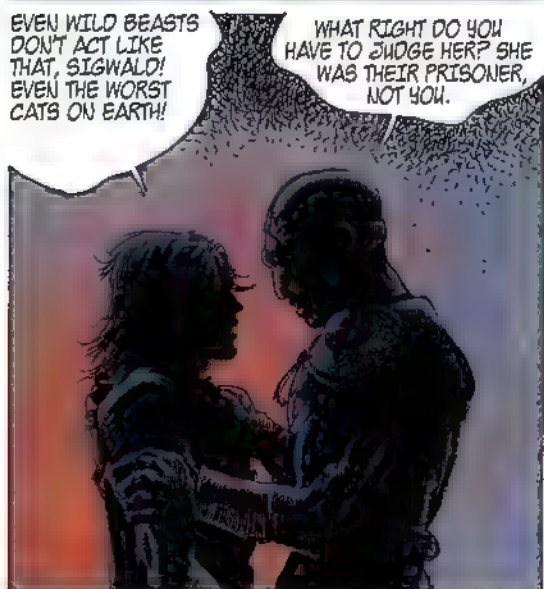


SO HE'LL
PAY FOR
THAT, TOO.

HEY?! WHAT'S
SHE GOING TO
DO NOW? THAT'S
ENOUGH NOW!
STOP!



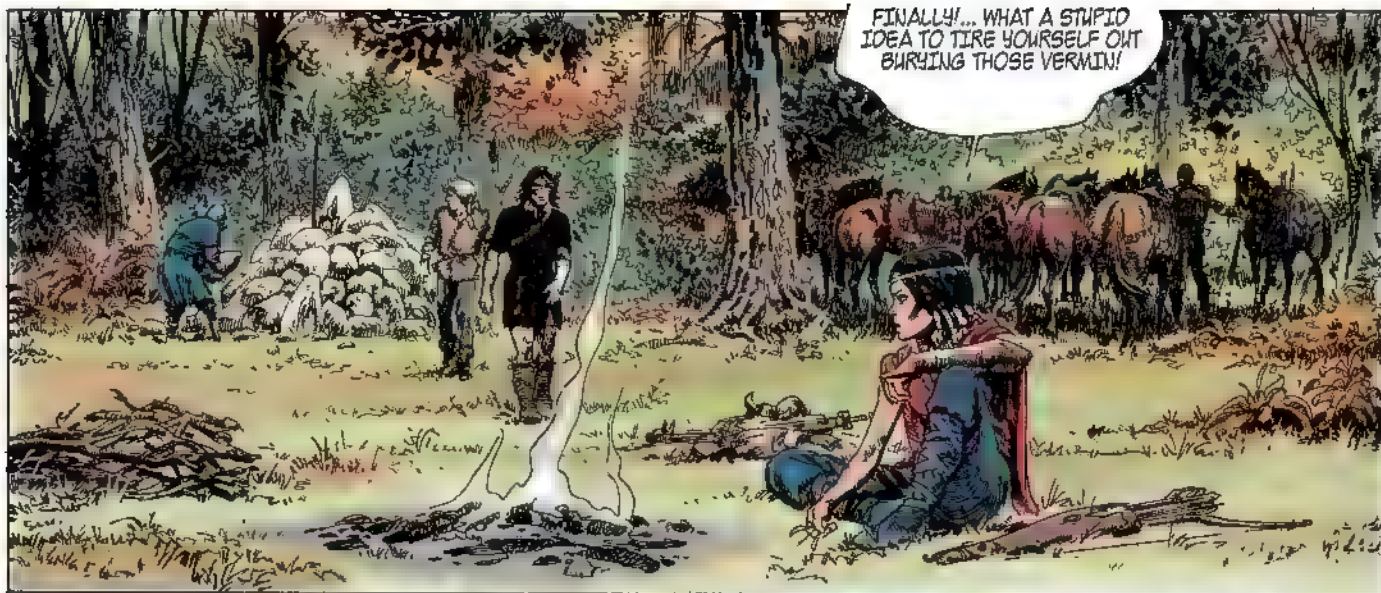
AAAAHHH
GGHH



EVEN WILD BEASTS
DON'T ACT LIKE
THAT, SIGWALD!
EVEN THE WORST
CATS ON EARTH!

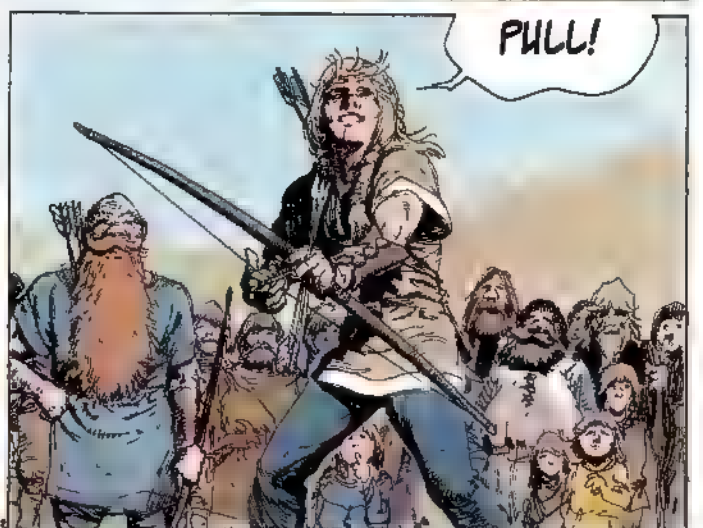
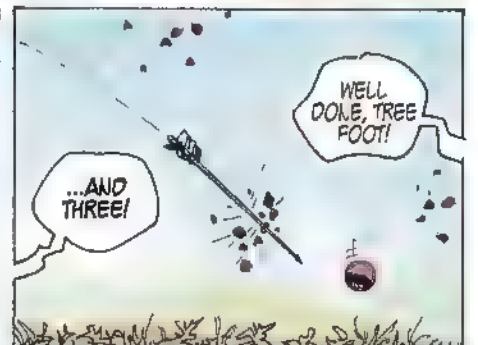
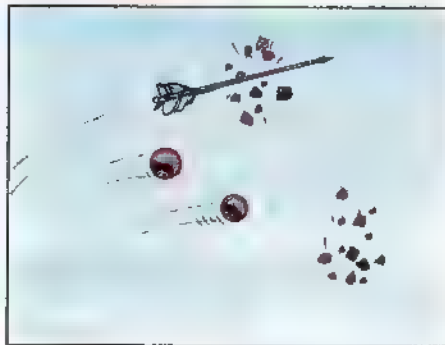
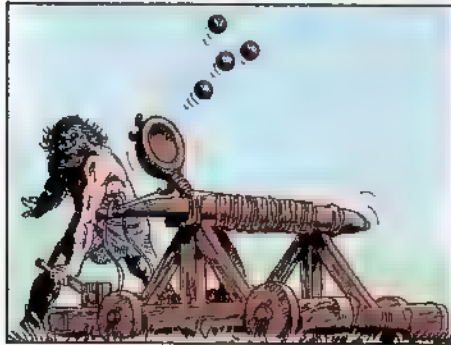
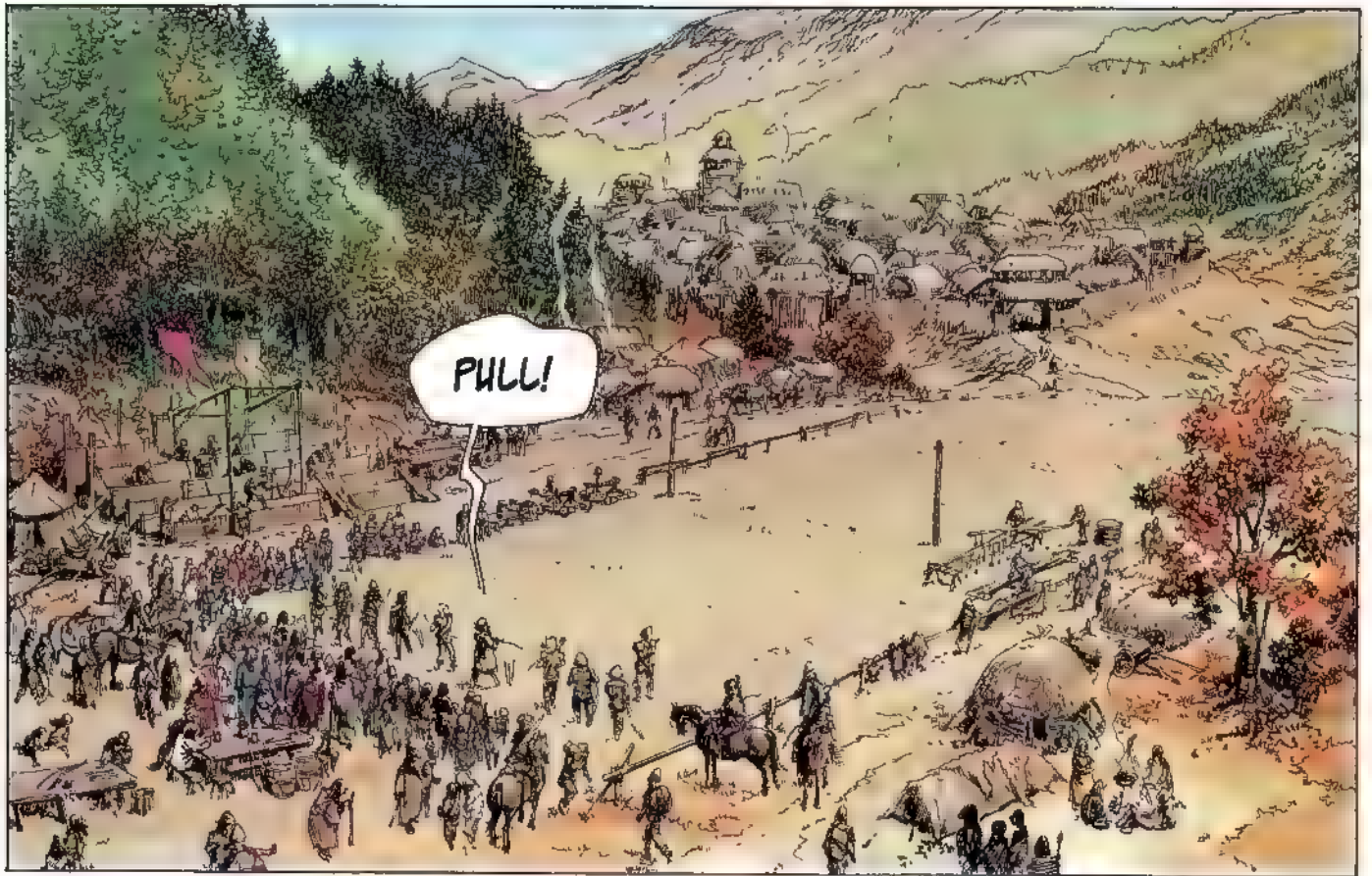
WHAT RIGHT DO YOU
HAVE TO JUDGE HER? SHE
WAS THEIR PRISONER,
NOT YOU.

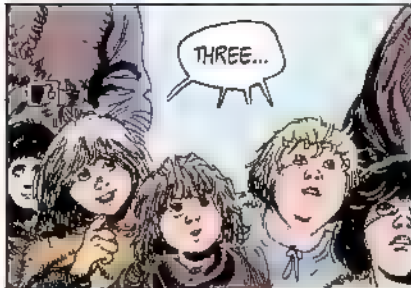
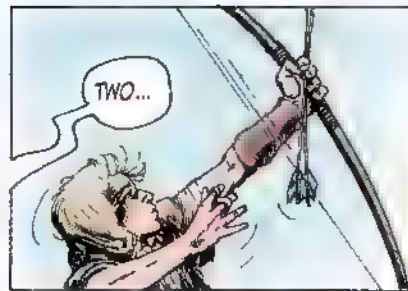
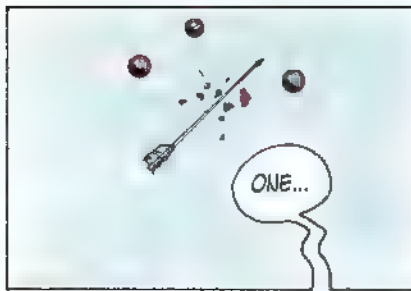




WELL... I'LL ADMIT THAT YOU DIDN'T DO TOO BADLY THERE. AND TO REWARD YOU, SIGWALD AND I HAVE DECIDED TO LEAVE YOU HALF OF THOSE POOR IDIOTS' HORSES...









TREE FOOT'S GETTING OLD, FATIGUE WILL MAKE HIS HAND TREMBLE. WITH HIM, YOU'LL LOSE YOUR CHANCE TO WIN.

BUT... IT'S JUST...

NO HOLDS BARRED, EHP?



YOU WANT TO WIN THE HUNDRED SILVER MARKS? THAT'S GOOD—SO DO I.

YOU?!

YOU... YOU WANT TO BE IN THE TOURNAMENT?!



WHY NOT? I'VE GOT A BOAT TO BUY, REMEMBER. AND MY HAND NEEDS SOME EXERCISE.

DON'T COUNT ON ME, ANYWAY I'D PREFER TO TEAM UP WITH A RAT.



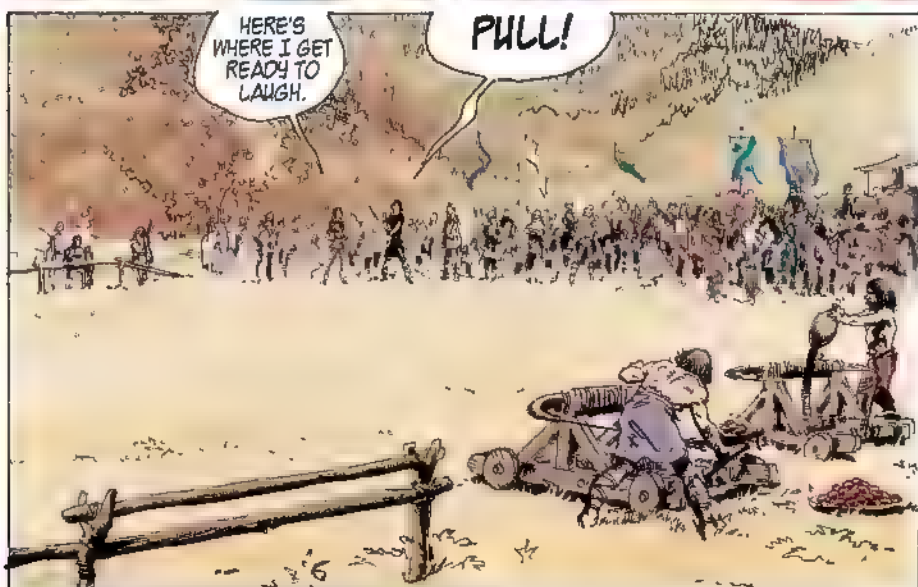
THAT'D BE A MUCH BETTER MATCH FOR YOU. BUT BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS, KRIS OF VALNOR. AND I'M SPEAKING FOR MYSELF.

AND I DON'T THINK YOU'RE LACKING IN PRE-TENTION, THORGAL AEGIRSSON. DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW TO USE A BOW?



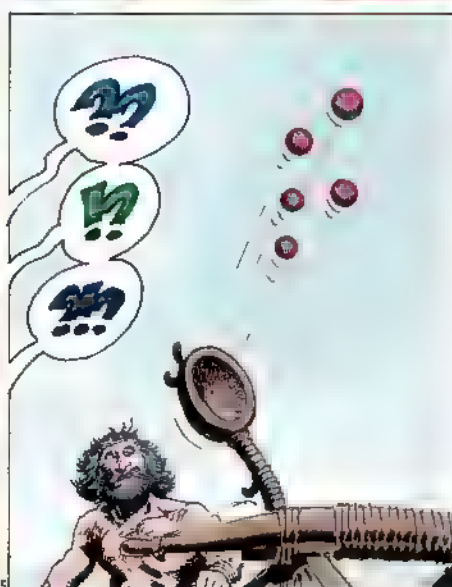
HOW MANY CLAY BALLS DO I HAVE TO HIT TO CONVINCE YOU?

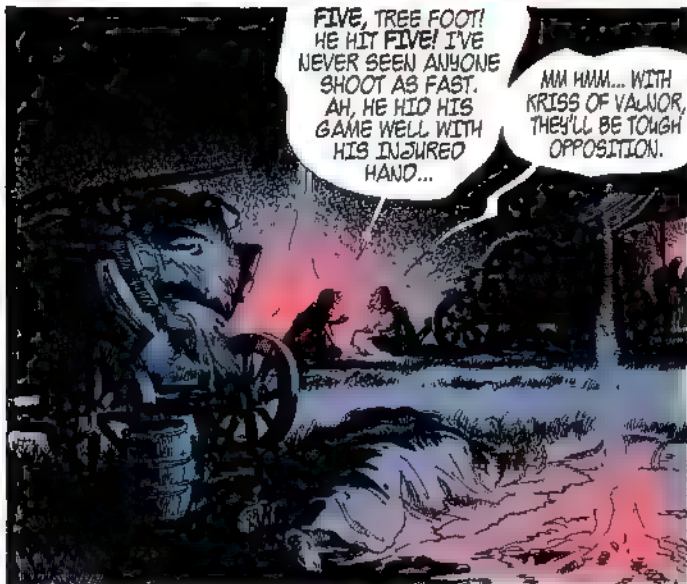
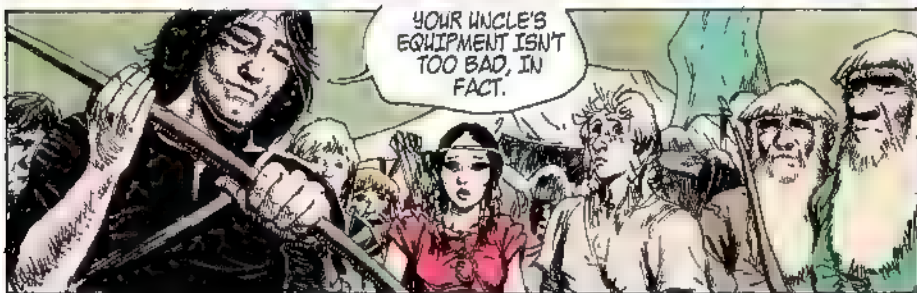
ANYTHING FROM FOUR AND UP AND I'LL MAYBE THINK ABOUT RECONSIDERING. I HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE.

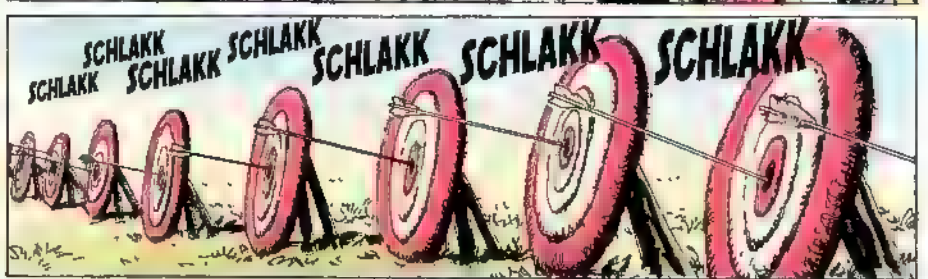
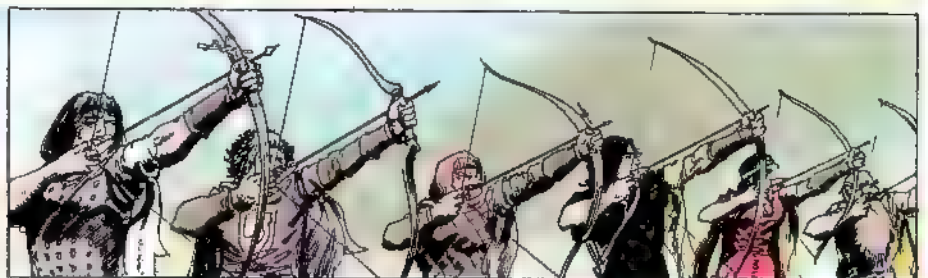
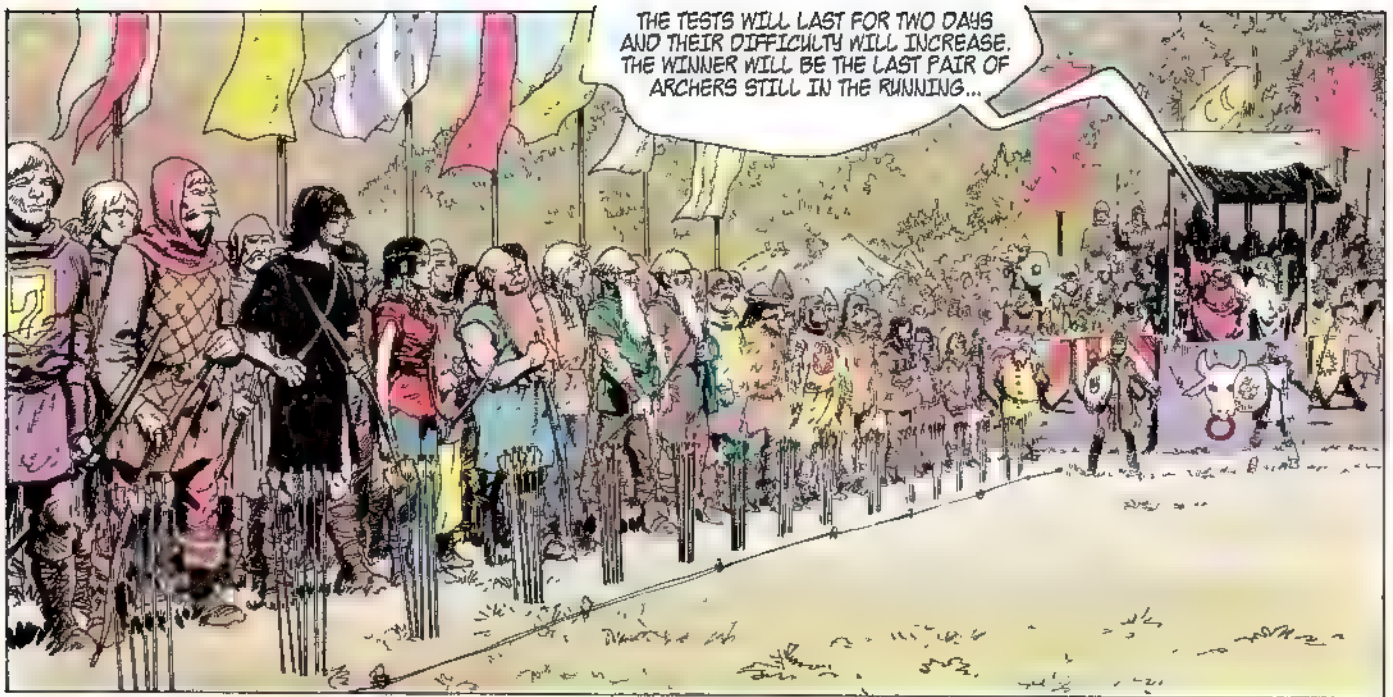


HERE'S WHERE I GET READY TO LAUGH.

PULL!









BY THE GODS,
THAT WILD CHILD IS
WORTH A DOZEN OF MY
ARCHERS!...

HER COMPANION
ISN'T BAD
EITHER.



IS IT BEING IN THE LEAD AFTER THE FIRST DAY THAT'S TAKEN AWAY YOUR APPETITE? YOU'RE RIGHT TO BE WORRIED. TREE FOOT AND I AREN'T FAR BEHIND.

I'M THINKING ABOUT MY FAMILY, TALL...

I LEFT MY ISLAND TEN DAYS AGO. AARICIA AND SOLAN MUST THINK I'M DEAD.

YOU'LL SOON HAVE YOUR BOAT, THORGAL. WHETHER IT BE US OR YOU WHO WINS, YOU'LL HAVE IT.



BUT HOW CAN A MAN LIKE YOU LET HIMSELF BE TIED TO A WOMAN AND...

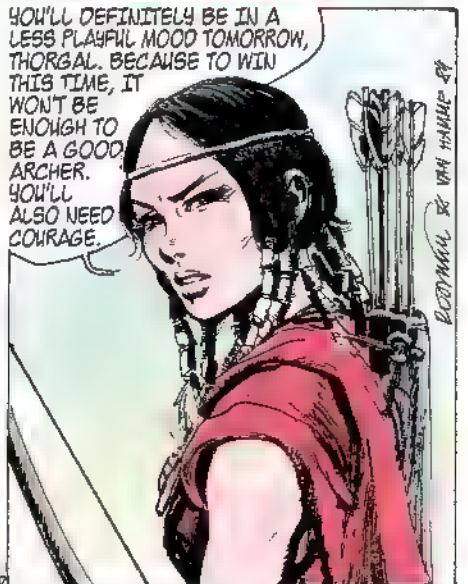
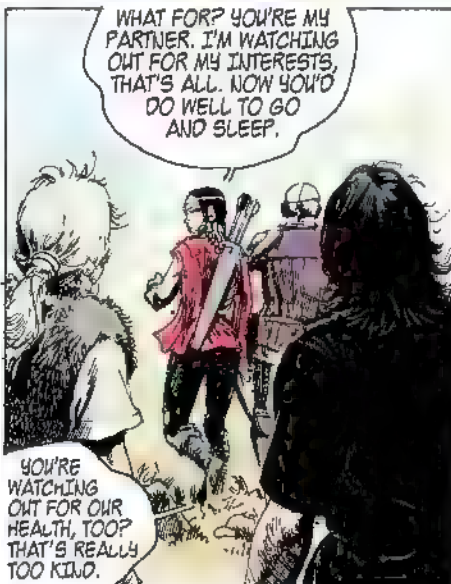
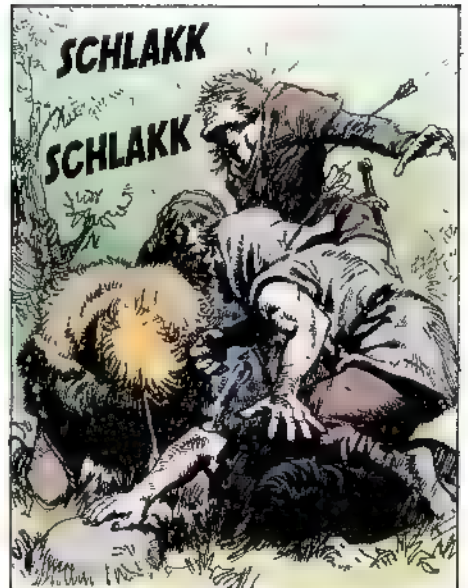
CHHT... LISTEN, SOUNDS LIKE...

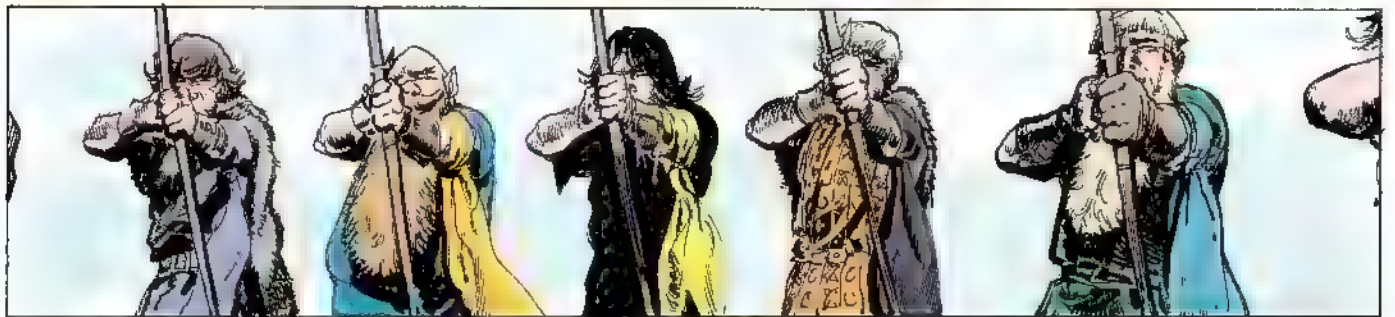
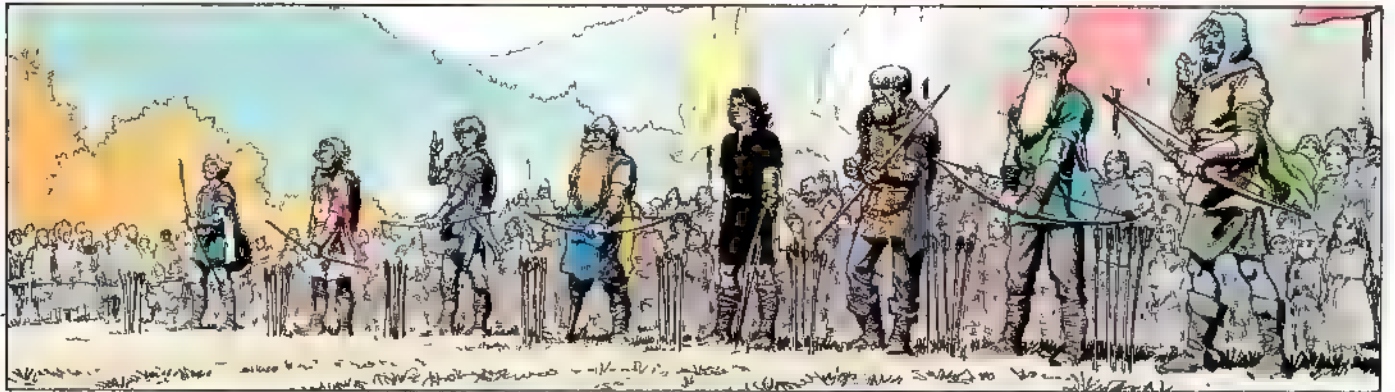
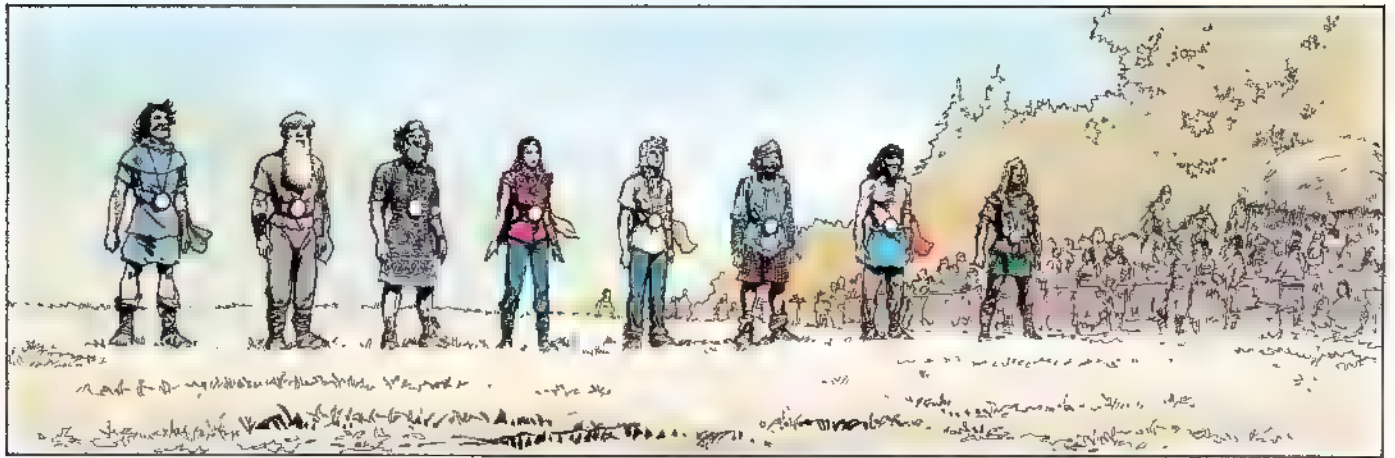


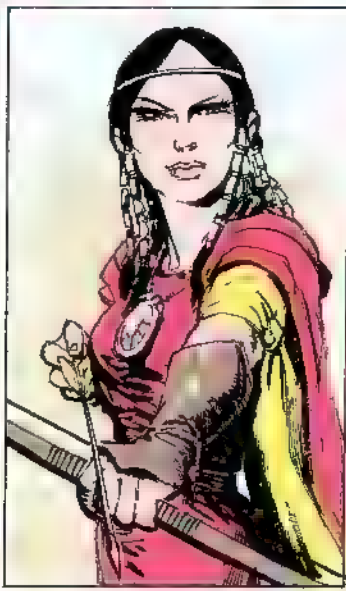
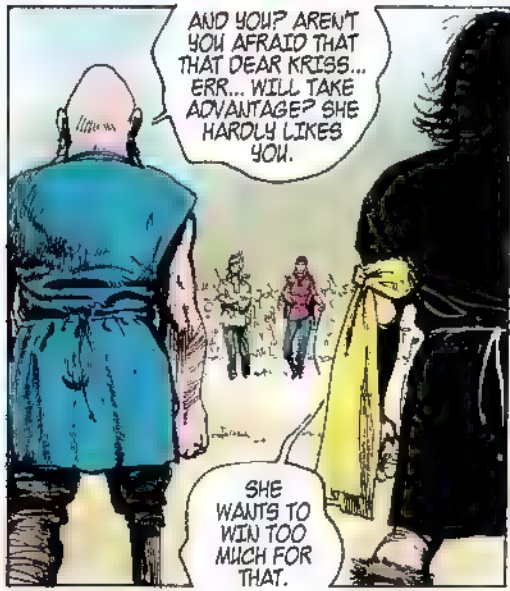
NO POINT KILLING THEM...

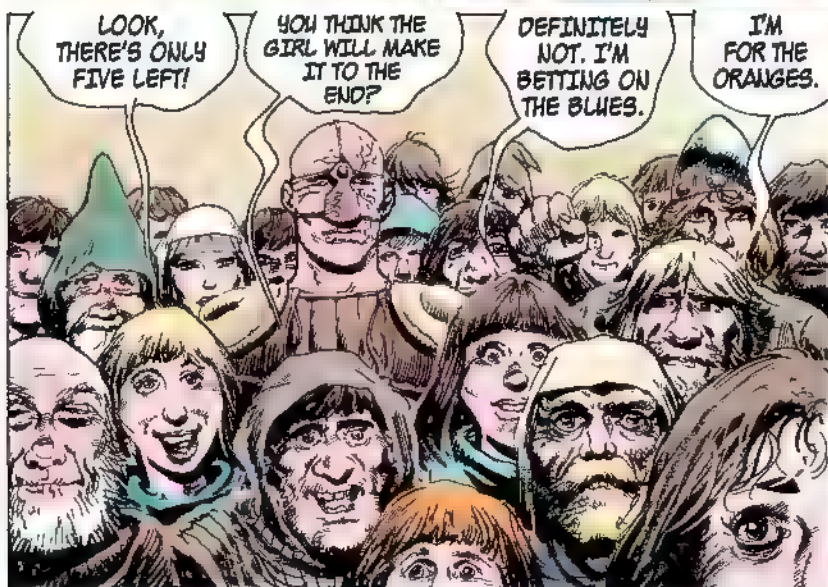
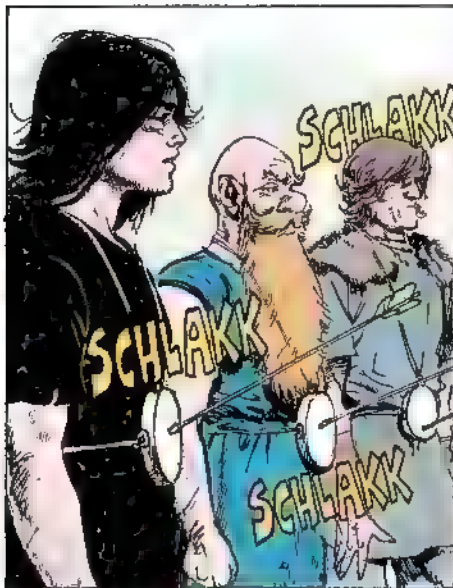


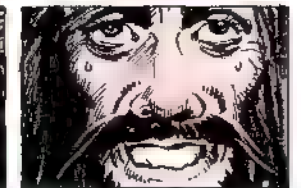
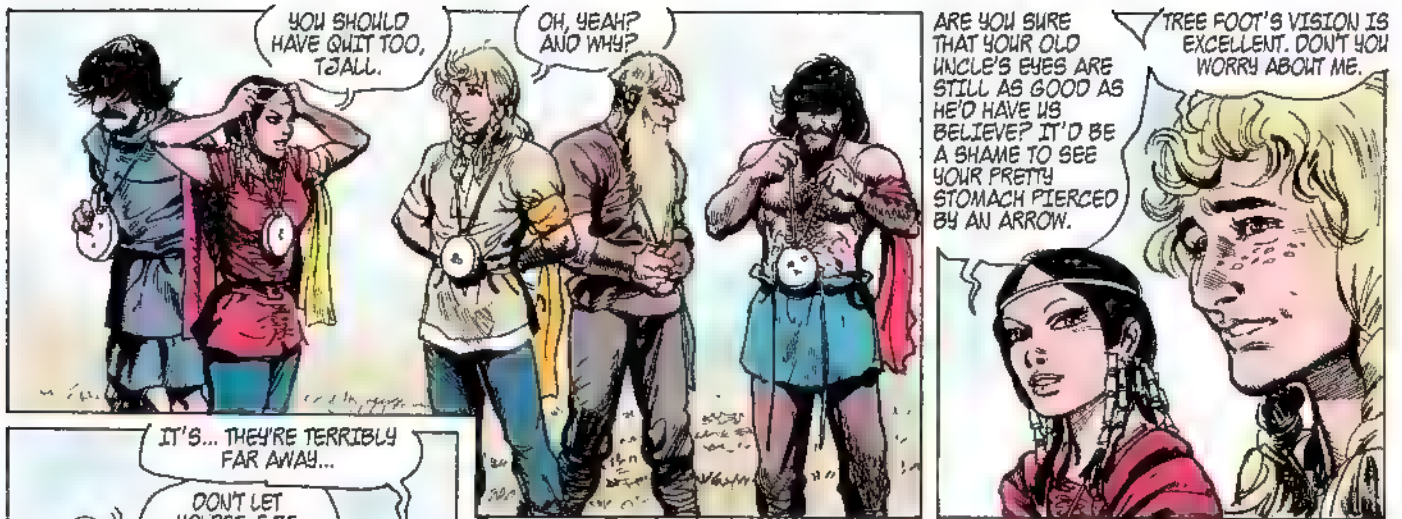
JUST BREAKING THEIR WRISTS SHOULD DO IT!



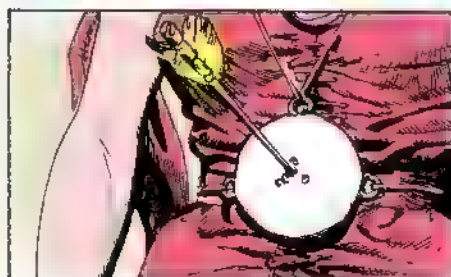
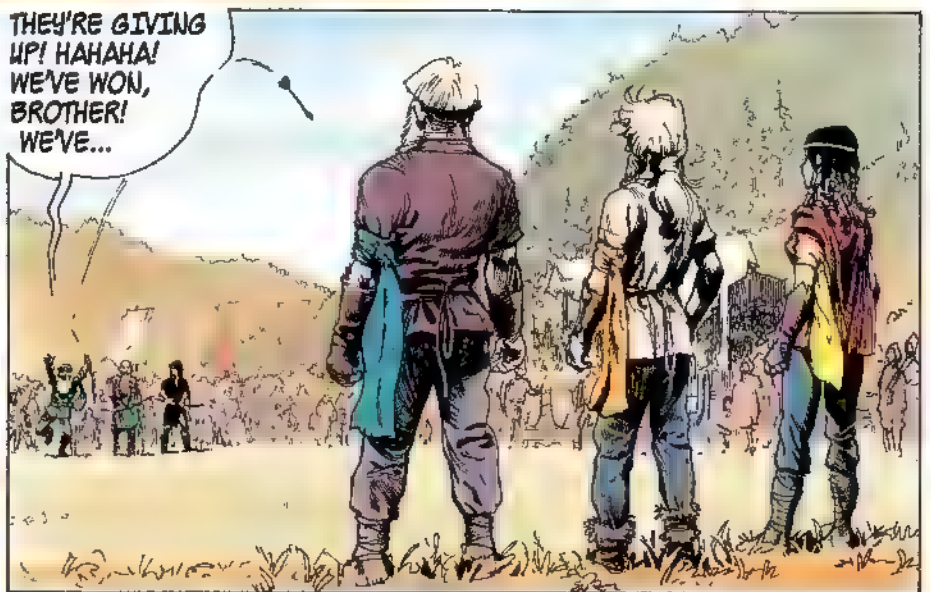
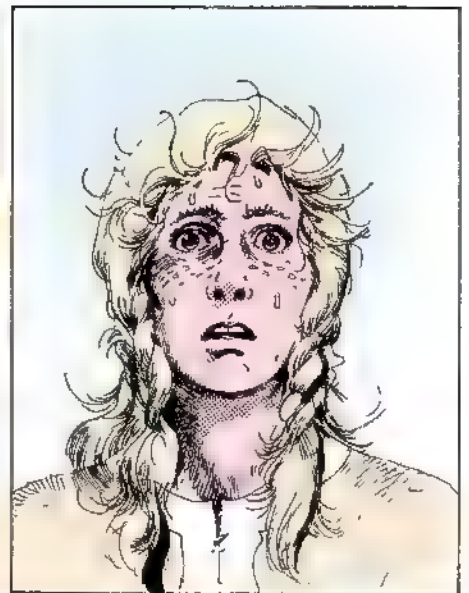














THE TOURNAMENT STOPS
HERE, LORD UMBRIA. MY
COMPANIONS AND I ARE
NOT WILLING TO KEEP
KILLING EACH OTHER
FOR YOUR GOOD
PLEASURE.



SO BE IT. YOUR ARCHERY
TALENTS ALLOW YOU TO BE
GENEROUS, STRANGER. YOU
WILL THIS SHARE THE WINNER'S
PRIZE AMONG FOUR DURING
THE BANQUET TONIGHT.



I WASN'T TRYING
TO HUMILIATE YOU,
TREE FOOT. IT'S JUST
THAT A QUARTER OF
THE PRIZE IS
ENOUGH FOR
MY PLANS.



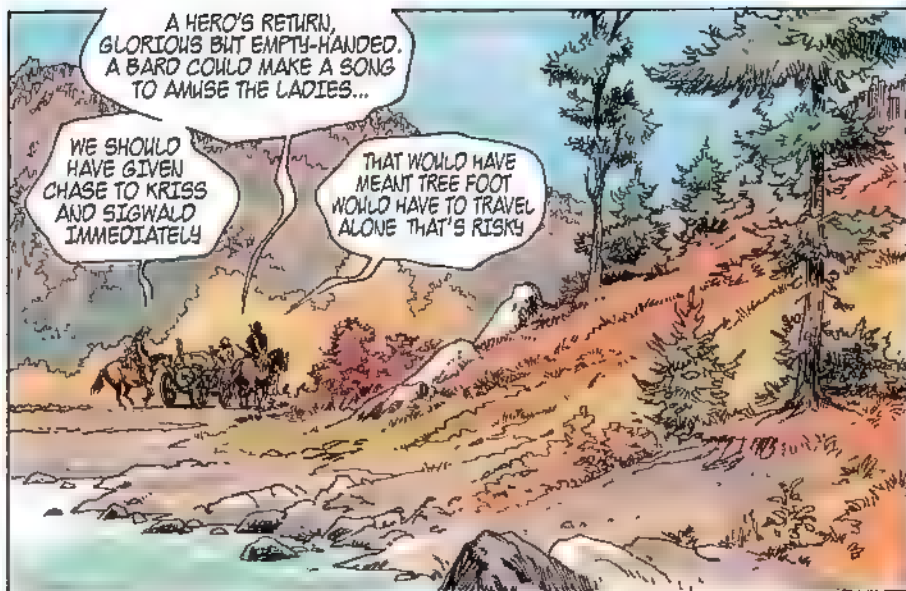
IT'S GOOD
TO HAVE A WISE
MAN FOR A FRIEND,
THORGAL. SO, THANK
YOU TWICE.



AFTER BEING ENTERTAINED BY
TWO DAYS OF TOURNAMENT, IT GIVES
ME GREAT PLEASURE TO AWARD A
HUNDRED SILVER MARKS TO THE
PRETTIEST HANDS I EVER SAW
PULL A BOW'S STRING...









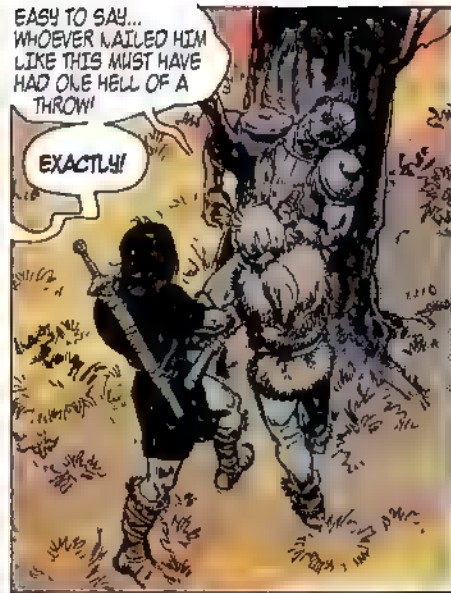
SIGWALD THE BURN'T!

THIS TIME HE FOUND SOMEONE STRONGER THAN HIM



NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO SEE THE PRETTY LITTLE FACE HIDING BEHIND THAT MASK.

WHAT GOOD WOULD THAT DO? HELP ME PULL OUT THIS SPEAR INSTEAD. WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM LIKE THAT



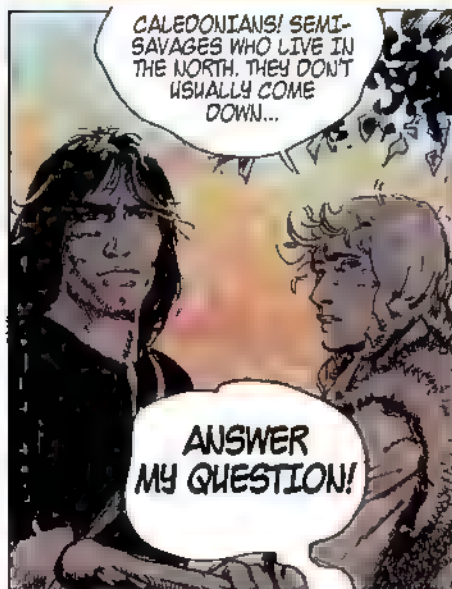
EASY TO SAY... WHOEVER NAILED HIM LIKE THIS MUST HAVE HAD ONE HELL OF A THROW!

EXACTLY!



WERE YOU A FRIEND OF THIS MAN?

???



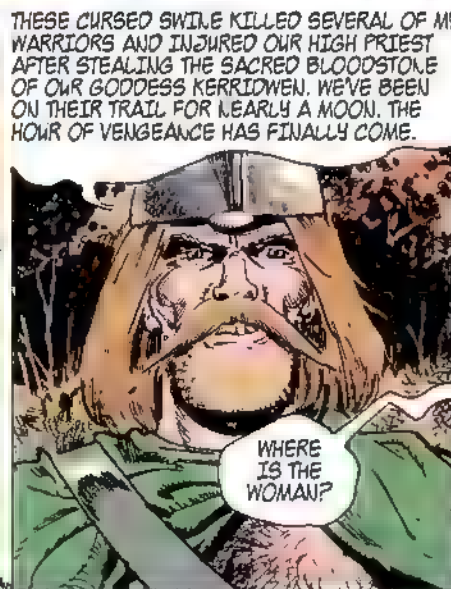
CALEDONIANS! SEMI-SAVAGES WHO LIVE IN THE NORTH. THEY DON'T USUALLY COME DOWN...

ANSWER MY QUESTION!



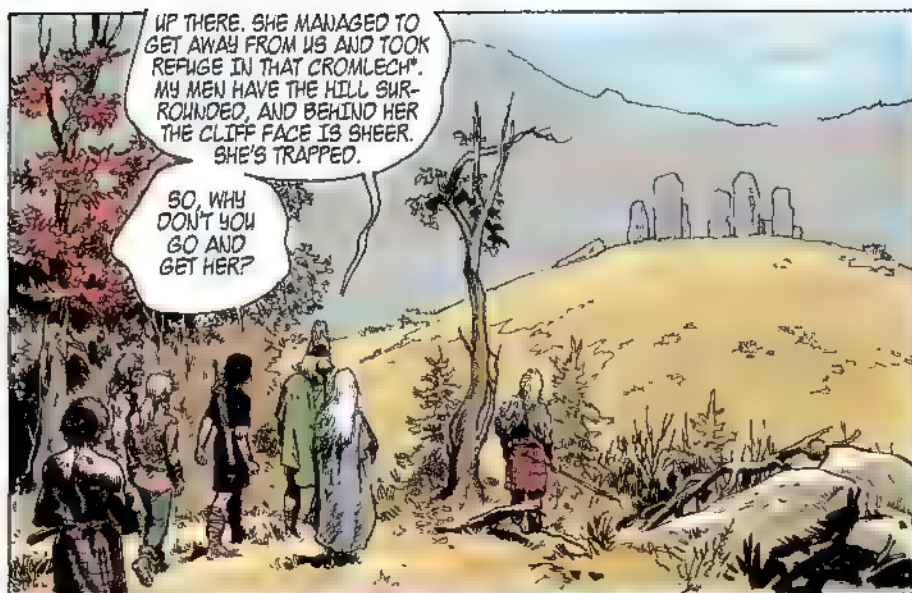
THIS MAN AND HIS ACCOMPLICE STOLE FROM US. WE WERE LOOKING FOR THEM

SO WE'RE IN THE SAME CAMP.



THESE CURSED SWINE KILLED SEVERAL OF MY WARRIORS AND INJURED OUR HIGH PRIEST AFTER STEALING THE SACRED BLOODSTONE OF OUR GODDESS KERRIDWEN. WE'VE BEEN ON THEIR TRAIL FOR NEARLY A MOON. THE HOUR OF VENGEANCE HAS FINALLY COME.

WHERE IS THE WOMAN?



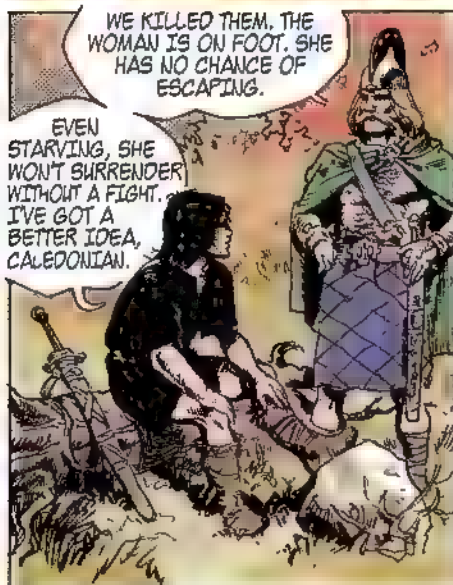
UP THERE. SHE MANAGED TO GET AWAY FROM US AND TOOK REFUGE IN THAT CROMLECH*. MY MEN HAVE THE HILL SURROUNDED, AND BEHIND HER THE CLIFF FACE IS SHEER. SHE'S TRAPPED.

SO, WHY DON'T YOU GO AND GET HER?



SHE'S KEEPING US AT A DISTANCE WITH HER ARROWS. I'VE ALREADY LOST ENOUGH MEN THAT WAY. BUT THIRST AND HUNGER WILL FORCE HER OUT OF THERE.

HMM... IF I KNOW HER, THAT COULD TAKE A LONG TIME. THEIR HORSES?



WE KILLED THEM. THE WOMAN IS ON FOOT. SHE HAS NO CHANCE OF ESCAPING.

EVEN STARVING, SHE WON'T SURRENDER WITHOUT A FIGHT. I'VE GOT A BETTER IDEA, CALEDONIAN.

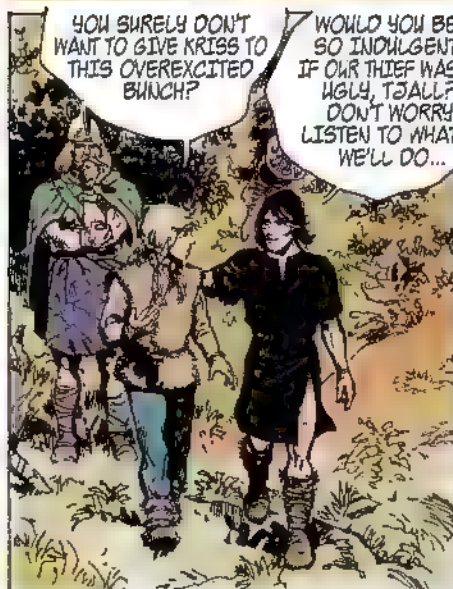


MY COMPANION AND I WILL TRY TO DISARM AND CAPTURE HER. THAT WAY, WE CAN GET WHAT SHE STOLE FROM US WITHOUT WAITING, AND YOU CAN GET YOUR SACRED STONE.



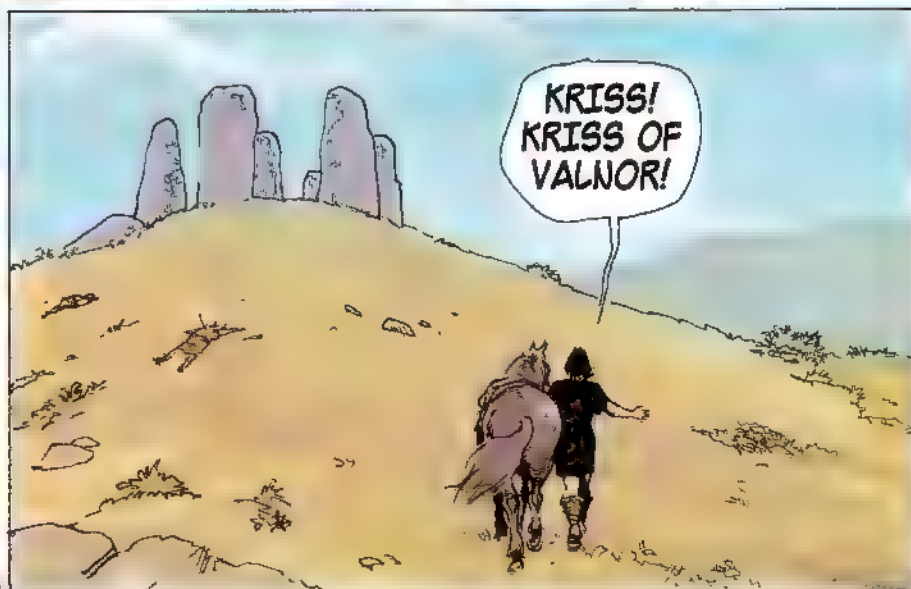
WHY WOULD YOU RISK THAT?

BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME AND WE KNOW THIS WOMAN BETTER THAN YOU. WHAT HAVE YOU TO FEAR, CALEDONIAN? THERE'RE A HUNDRED OF YOU AND ONLY TWO OF US...



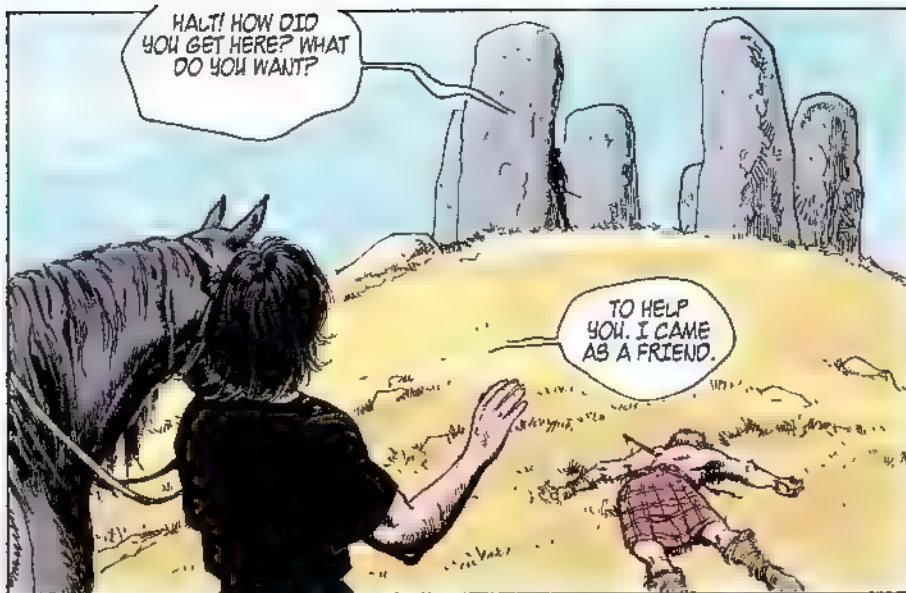
YOU SURELY DON'T WANT TO GIVE KRISS TO THIS OVEREXCITED BUNCH?

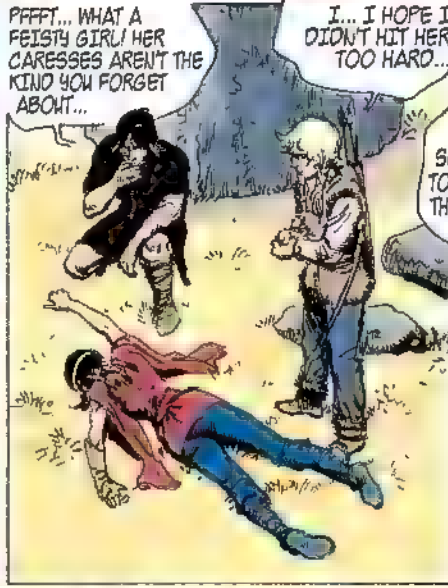
WOULD YOU BE SO INDULGENT IF OUR THIEF WAS UGLY, TALL? DON'T WORRY: LISTEN TO WHAT WE'LL DO...

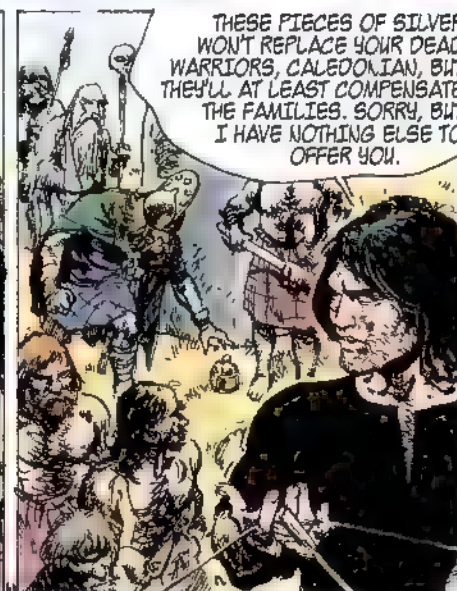
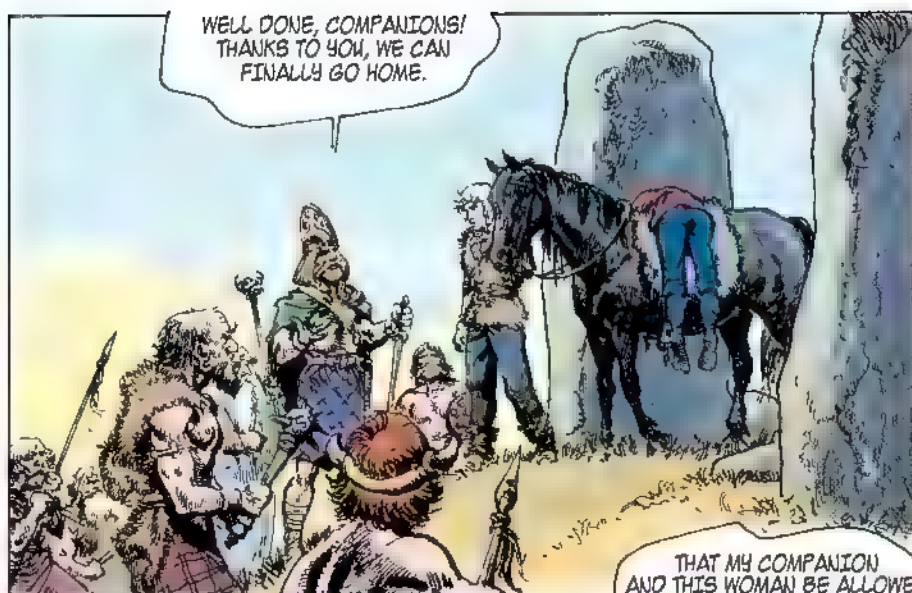


KRISS! KRISS OF VALNOR!

*CROMLECH: A STONE CIRCLE







YES, STRANGER: YOUR LIFE. HOW LONG DO YOU HOPE TO KEEP YOUR BOW PULLED?

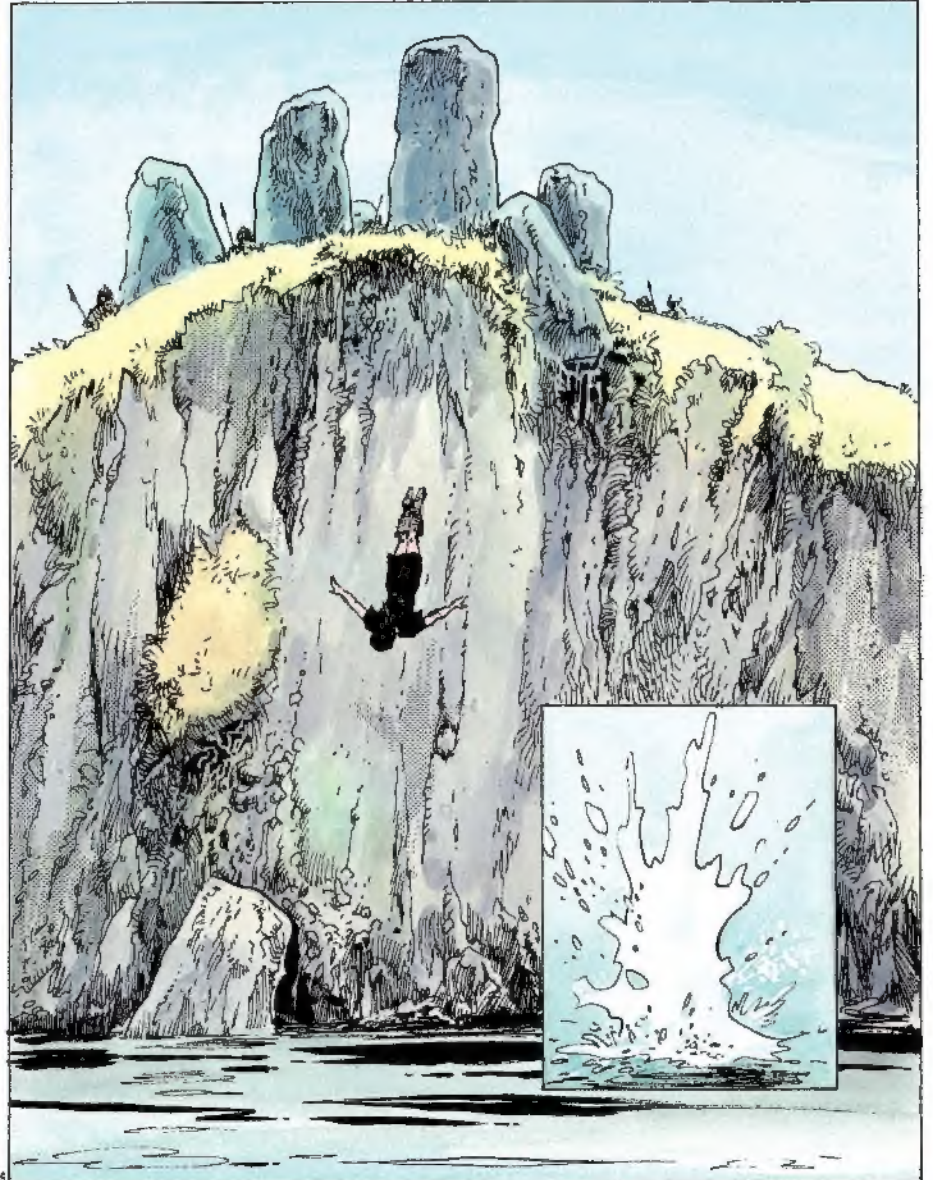
NOT VERY LONG NOW, YOU'RE RIGHT...

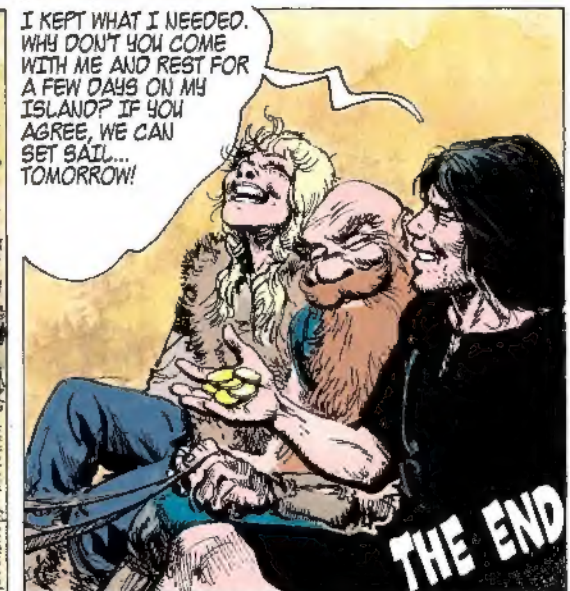
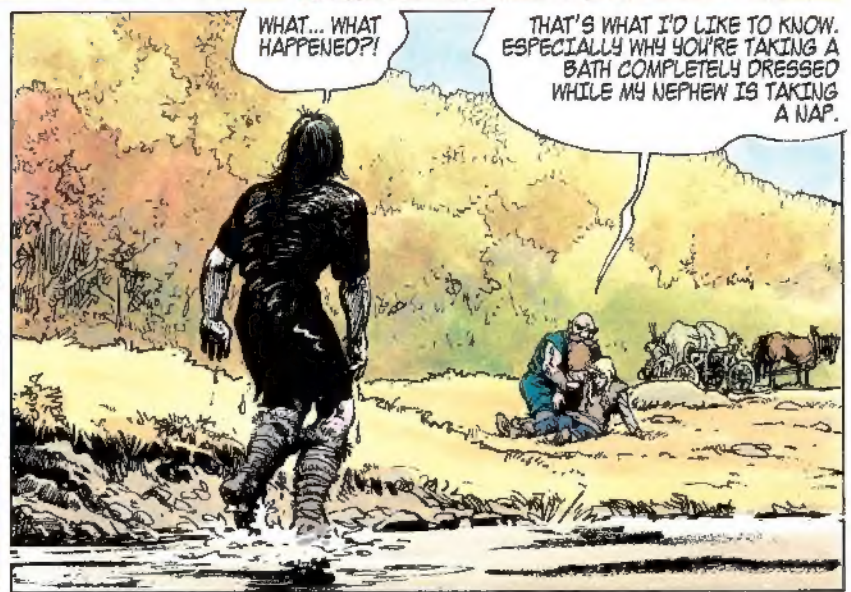
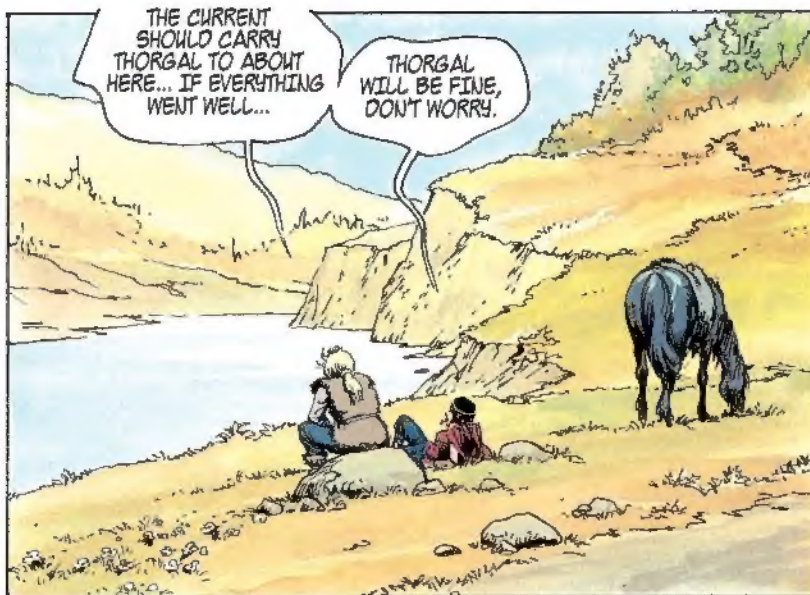


SO, RUN AND FETCH YOUR FAMOUS STONE!



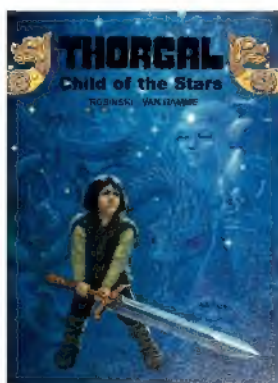
SEIZE HIM...?!?



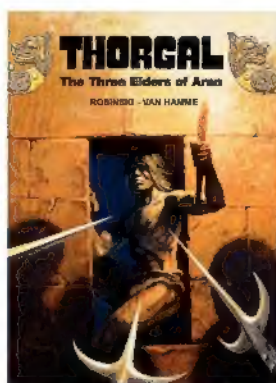


THORGAL

THE GODS HAVE PUT A MAN
TO THE TEST



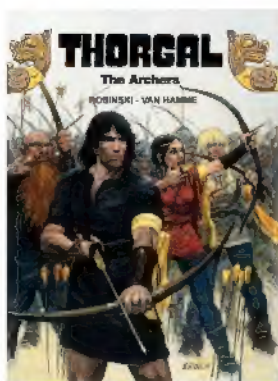
❶ Child of the Stars
Incl. Aaricia



❷ The Three Elders of Aran
Incl. The Black Galley



❸ Beyond the Shadows
Incl. The Fall of Brek Zarith



❹ The Archers
Incl. Alinoe



❺ The Land of Qa
Incl. The Eyes of Tanattoc



❻ City of the Lost God
Incl. Between Earth and Sun



Grzegorz Rosinski,
Artist of the series
Thorgal, Chninkel,
The Revenge of
Count Skarbek...



Jean Van Hamme,
Script writer of the series
Thorgal, Largo Winch,
XIII, Wayne Shelton,
Lady S... and movies
such as "Diva"

US \$19.95	ISBN 978-1-905460-67-0		US \$19.95
	9 781905 460670		
www.cinebook.com			

